MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 APRIL 1987

Palestinian Talks

Palestinian talks are continuing in Algiers, and according to sources cited by *The Jordan Times*, Syria has proposed that it will back reunification efforts under certain conditions. The paper revealed that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad met with former PNC speaker Khalid al-Fahum and expressed willingness to receive a PLO delegation representing all factions if all factions endorse an agreement signed by six groups in Tripoli last month. The proposal also includes an invitation to all PLO factions to visit Damascus and meet with Al-Asad before the upcoming PNC session, the paper added. If all factions endorsed the Tripoli document, the sources said "everybody without exception" would be welcomed to Damascus, the paper reported, pointing out that this indicates Syria may be willing to reconsider its opposition to Yasir 'Arafat. According to *Al-Dustur*, there is a "strong possibility" Syria will participate in the PNC meeting following mediation by Algeria, Libya, and the PDRY.

Fatah sources told the paper "the movement could not fully endorse the Tripoli document" because it nullifies the 17th PNC session and severs all PLO contacts with Egypt. The Jordan Times noted that Palestinian factions are divided on the Syrian proposal

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian troops and fighters from the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan launched the "Fath-5" guerrilla offensive, codenamed "the Lord of the Era," Tehran radio announced, noting that two Iraqi bases in the Al-Sulaymaniyah region were destroyed.

Iran

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni ruled out a Ramadan cease-fire in the Gulf war in a recorded speech carried by Tehran radio. Khomeyni stressed that Iran should not give respite to the enemy, which would allow it time to rearm and prepare for an attack. The imam also urged citizens to unite to overcome conspiracies that aim to create dissension.

Lebanon

Syrian Deployment — About 120 Syrian troops deployed along the coastal road between Khaldah and Al-Awwali alongside Lebanese Army troops already in position, Beirut Voice of National Resistance radio reported, adding that 25 soldiers stationed themselves at the northern entrance to Sidon. According to Jerusalem radio, defense sources say that while the IDF is following events in the south, these Syrian moves "have no significance as far as Israel is concerned."

Security — Unidentified gunmen assassinated a Syrian Social Nationalist Party (SSNP) official in West Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. Gunmen also seriously wounded another SSNP official and a number of his aides in the western Al-Biqa'. Israeli aircraft flew over Beirut on 15 April, the radio also noted.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Interview — In an interview carried by JANA, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said he expects relations with the United States to improve after President Reagan's term, and urged the United States to find a means of reaching an understanding with Libya other than confrontation, which has failed in the past. Speaking about Chad, the Libyan leader said he is prepared to meet with former GUNT leader Goukouni Oueddei, and reasserted ownership of the Aozou strip. On the Iran-Iraq war, Al-Qadhdhafi confirmed he is trying to mediate between the two countries, but not through direct contacts. Al-Qadhdhafi refused to discuss his comments about joining the Warsaw Pact or a message he recently received from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Libyan Opposition — The leader of the Front for the Salvation of Libya (FNSL) held a news conference in Chad, Ndjamena radio reported. The official stressed there will never be an end to the conflict in Chad as long as Al-Qadhdhafi is not eliminated. According to the radio, he asserted that Libyan prisoners of war in Chad will become the nucleus of an army to "save" Libya from Al-Qadhdhafi, adding that Chadians and Libyans lived in peace until the Libyan leader "usurped power to create a dispute" between them.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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PLO Talks Continue; Syria Makes New Proposal

JN150545 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
15 Apr 87 pp 1, 3

[From Lamis K. Andoni in Algiers]

[Text]A Palestinian national dialogue entered its second day here on Tuesday and informed sources said Syria had proposed that it would back efforts for reunifying the ranks of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) subject to certain conditions.

As various factions of the PLO met here and continued discussions over means and ways to reunite rival PLO groups under the umbrella of the organisation led by chairman Yasir 'Arafat, well-placed Palestinian sources said Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, in a meeting with former PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum on Monday, expressed willingness to receive a PLO delegation representing all factions if all factions endorsed an inter-PLO agreement signed by six factions in Tripoli, Libya, last month. The Syrian proposal also included an invitation to all PLO factions to visit Damascus for a meeting with Mr. Al-Asad before the Palestine National Council (PNC) convenes here on April 20, the sources said.

According to the sources, Syria suggested that Khalil al-Wazir, deputy military commander of the PLO and co-founder of Fatah, the largest Palestinian commando movement and Mr. 'Arafat's powerbase in the PLO, could lead the PLO delegation to Damascus. Mr. al-Wazir was deported from Syria in June 1983 along with Mr. 'Arafat after the PLO chairman accused Syria of instigating and encouraging a rebellion in the ranks of Fatah fighters based in north Lebanon.

The sources who spoke to the *Jordan Times* on Tuesday said the Syrian proposal said that "if all factions endorsed the Tripoli document, everybody without exception would be welcome to Damascus," thus indicating that the Syrian leadership might be willing to reconsider its opposition to Mr. 'Arafat.

However, Fatah sources said the movement could not fully endorse the Tripoli document since it stipulated the declaration as null and void the 17th session of the PNC, held in Amman in 1984, a severence of all PLO contacts with Egypt and several other organisational reforms.

Palestinian factions here were divided on the Syrian proposal. Some of them viewed it as a welcome development but said any visit to Damascus by it should be taken up only after the PNC was convened as scheduled. Others viewed the Syrian initiative as an effort at delaying the convening of the PNC.

Official Algerian sources told the *Jordan Times* that Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahimi left Algiers for Damascus with a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to President Al-Asad. The message, said the sources, included an Algerian and Palestinian reiteration that the convening of the PNC as scheduled in Algiers was "by no means a challenge or confrontation with any Arab party or side."

The sources added that an official invitation had already been sent to President al-Asad along with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, a key player in the ongoing efforts to reunify the PLO, to attend the opening session of the PNC.

The Palestinian sources who spoke to the *Jordan Times* on Tuesday said the Syrian proposal conveyed to Mr. al-Fahum also included an implicit warning to the Damascus-based Palestinian factions attending the Algiers talks. They said Syria had said that its stand towards these factions, whose leaders reportedly turned down an urgent summons by Mr. al-Asad to Damascus earlier this week, would depend on whether the Algiers meetings produced an agreement that the PLO would end all its contacts with the Egyptian government and would declare as null and void the Amman session of the PNC. "Damascus will not prevent any faction from attending the PNC, but it will also not encourage any faction to do so," the sources quoted the Syrian message as saying.

George Habash, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), one of the Damascus- based factions attending the talks here, addressed the morning session on Tuesday of the Palestinian national dialogue.

Dr. Habash, hitherto an avowed opponent of Mr. 'Arafat, was said to have indicated new flexibility in his address, although he had not dropped his demand that the PLO "closes its Cairo gate," meaning contacts with the Egyptian government. Dr. Habash said the restoration of the unity of the PLO was "the top priority for the PFLP at this stage."

However, he said, "the goal of unity should not be separated from sound and strong basis for national Palestinian unity."

The PFLP leader said the reconciliation efforts had gone "a long way towards the restoration of this unity after Mr. 'Arafat announced Fatah's agreement to abrogate the Feb. 11, 1985, Jordan-PLO agreement" The PLO chairman made the announcement at a closed meeting on Monday.

Nayif Hawatimah, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) — another Damascus-based faction — also addressed Tuesday's meeting. Mr. Hawatimah, who has been playing a leading role in efforts for ending the differences between Fatah and the PFLP, also indicated that Dr. Habash was showing new flexibility after Mr. 'Arafat's announcement.

Reliable sources said Mr. Hawatimah and Sulayman Najjab, leader of the Palestinian Communist Party, was working towards on arriving at a formula which would satisfy both Fatah and the PFLP concerning the PLO's relations with Egypt and clearly define political and organisational constraints on the PLO leadership against any contact with Cairo that would violate the PLO position on the basis for a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian problem and the PLO's right to armed resistance against Israel.

Despite the optimistic signs and the cordial atmosphere at the meetings here, it appeared on Tuesday that the ultimate goal of convening the PNC was not exactly achieved. While some observers believed that the PFLP had indeed indicated its commitment to attending the council session, some others believed that the controversy over the PLO's relations with Egypt could

prove to be a time-bomb that could undermine all efforts towards holding the PNC as scheduled.

Efforts Made To Include Syria in Algiers Talks

JN150849 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
15 Apr 87 pp 1, 23

[Hamadah Fara'inah and Sana' al-'Alul dispatch from Algiers]

[Text] Algeria, Libya, and the PDRY are still trying to persuade Syria to participate in efforts to reunite the PLO ranks. Toward this end, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi telephoned Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. YSP Secretary General 'Ali Salim al-Bid, who is expected in the Algerian capital, sent a personal envoy to Damascus with a message to President al-Asad urging Syrian participation in the PNC meetings. Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid has decided to send two envoys to Tripoli and Damascus. Mohamed Cherif Messaadia will leave for Tripoli with a message to the Libyan leader and Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi will leave for Syria with a message to the Syrian president.

Informed sources said there is a strong possibility that Syria will participate in the PNC meetings following the Algerian, Libyan, and PDRY mediations. The same sources also expected participation by the Al-Sa'iqah Organization, the PFLP-GC, and Fatah's uprising movement led by Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] although these groups are boycotting the current dialogue in Algiers.

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat invited Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad as well as Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to attend the 18th PNC session. PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih had earlier officially invited Syrian People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi to attend the session. A similar invitation was addressed to the Syrian ruling Ba'th Party.

In a related development, the various resistance factions, national figures, and representatives of the Palestinian trade unions participating in the dialogue ended their discussion of Jordanian-Palestinian relations by stressing the following:

1. The special and distinguished relations linking the fraternal Palestinian and Jordanian peoples should be emphasized and developed in harmony with the national interests of the two peoples and the Arab nation. This should be done for the sake of attaining the Palestinian people's national inalienable rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

2. Adherence to the PNC resolutions on relations with Jordan on the basis that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territory and that any future relationship with Jordan should be based on a confederation between two independent states.

3. Adherence to the principles approved by the 15th PNC session and Baghdad resolutions on bolstering steadfastness, including those related to the work of the joint Jordanian- Palestinian committee.

The eight Palestinian organizations, the national figures, and representatives of popular unions continued their dialogue in Algiers to prepare for a new PNC session. Yesterday's working session dealt with the procedures to be observed during the PNC discussions. Palestinian sources indicated that the July 1984 Aden/Algiers document will be the basis for the next PNC session, in addition to the resolutions adopted by the current preparatory meetings.

The Palestinian factions have approved the dialogue agenda which includes discussing the Palestinian situation in the occupied territories and Lebanon and the PLO's relations on the international level, particularly its stand toward an international Middle East peace conference. The Palestinian factions decided to form the dialogue committee from Salim al-Za'nun, Yasir 'Amr, Dr 'Abd al-Majid Tayih, Muhammad Malluh, and 'Abd al-Karim Qaysi.

Speaking at yesterday's session, Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, reviewed the PLO developments and the course of dialogue and contacts. He emphasized the PLO's support of relations with Egypt. As for Dr George Habash, he pointed to the dialogue's accomplishments and said that relations with Egypt continued to be the obstacle to Palestinian unity. He added that the PFLP's participation in the PNC hinges upon the resolution of this obstacle. Palestinian sources said an agreement might be reached on the topic of relations with Egypt within the next few days.

In the meantime, talks aimed at reunifying the Palestine Liberation Front, which is currently split into two groups, one headed by Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] who supports the PLO, and another by Tal'at Ya'qub in Syria, began on the sidelines of the Palestinian meetings.

'Arafat, Others Meet Algerian President

JN141709 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman, met with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid at the presidential palace in Algiers the day before yesterday. The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by Brothers Nayif Hawatimah, Dr George Habash, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, Sulayman al-Najab, Mahmud 'Abbas, Tal'at Ya'qub, and Samir Ghawshah. It was attended on the Algerian side by Brother Mohamed Cherif Messadia, Al-'Arabi Balkheir, and Al-Sadiq al-Wakim.

At the beginning of the meeting, President Bendjedid welcomed the leaders of the Palestinian organizations, stressing the significance of the Algerian initiative to hold a dialogue as well as the support of the Algerian Government, party, and people for Palestinian unity and struggle. He also stressed the need to ensure the success of the PNC session scheduled to be held in

Algiers. He also voiced Algeria's principled and firm support for the Palestine question and the Palestinian people under the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative.

Brother Abu 'Ammar expressed his thanks to the Algerian president for the efforts of the Algerian president, party, and people to support the Palestinian people's just struggle on the local, Arab, and international levels to ensure the success of the PNC session in Algiers.

KUWAIT

USSR's Petrovskiy To Begin Visit 16 Apr

LD141402 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1135 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Apr (KUNA) — Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy will arrive in Kuwait on Thursday for a 3-day official visit within a tour of a number of Arab states.

The Soviet official is scheduled to meet Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister; Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, minister of state for foreign affairs; Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry; and a number of officials to discuss bilateral relations and the ways and means of consolidating and developing cooperation between the two countries.

Talks will also concentrate on the situation in the region, particicularly the development of the Iraq-Iran war, freedom of navigation in the Arabian Gulf, the Middle East issue, and international questions of mutual interest.

OMAN

Industry Minister Returns From Jordan

JN141556 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Salim ibn 'Abdallah al-Ghazali, minister of industry and commerce, and his delegation have returned home after an official visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan which lasted several days. Speaking on arrival, the minister said that during his visit to sisterly Jordan he attended the meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Omani Economic Committee, which reviewed the progress in bilateral cooperation since the last meetings in the Sultanate.

The two sides also considered future plans for joint ventures in industry and agriculture and the marketing of agricultural produce. They discussed the establishment of a holding company, which he said can be launched by the private sector in both countries to promote trade ties. Since the agreement was signed with Jordan last year, he noted, a good number of its articles have been implemented in joint industrial and agricultural projects and increased trade. The goal of the establishment of the Joint Omani-Jordanian Committee was to follow up the implementation of the decisions made by the heads of state of both countries regarding trade and industry as well as other fields, Al-Ghazali said.

The delegation accompanying the minister on his visit to Jordan comprised the executive head of the general corporation for the marketing of agricultural produce and a number of officials of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

PDRY

'High-ranking' Soviet Delegation Arrives 14 Apr

EA142110 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Comrades Yevgeniy Kozlovskiy, the USSR minister of geology, and Yevgeniy Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, arrived in Aden this morning at the head of a high-ranking delegation on a visit to Democratic Yemen. During their visit, which will last several days, they will meet with officials at the Ministry of Energy and Minerals.

They were received at the airport by Brothers Salih Abu Bakr Bin Busaynun, member of the Central Committee, deputy prime minister and minister of energy and minerals; 'Abdallah Muhammad 'Uthman, minister of industry, trade and supply; Albert Rachkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR ambassador in Aden, and several officials from the Ministries of Energy and Minerals and Planning.

YSP's Muhammad Says 'Errors' Made in Past

JN141154 Kuwaiti AL-ANBA' in Arabic 12 Apr 87 p 22

[By 'Adnan al-Rashid]

[Excerpts] Aden — Salim Salih Muhammad, YSP assistant secretary general and YSP Central Committee secretary, has stressed that an analytical document is being prepared to assess the past situation in the PDRY and to determine mistakes and errors in a serious attempt by the YSP to redress the situation and to support the experiment of collective leadership. He said that this document will be submitted to the YSP inner conference which will be held soon.

Muhammad said that there have been mistakes which should be corrected, and that measures should be taken to prevent the repetition of these errors and to reorganize the party in the areas where it suffered during the January incidents. He pointed out that the party will mobilize its efforts to strengthen its role in all fields and to concentrate on the issue of discipline and to adhere to ideological principles.

Muhammad said that there are several issues which need to be tackled, particularly in the economic and social fields. He stressed that the YSP's relations are now good with all the progressive and friendly parties after what has taken place was explained to them. He said that relations with Ethiopia are now back to normal and that the recent meetings with the officials in Addis Ababa dealt with coordination regarding developments in the region. He added that the Ethiopian-Sudanese and the Ethiopian-Somali relations, and the need to settle the existing problems through dialogue were also discussed. This came in a comprehensive interview to *Al-Anba'*. The following are the details of the interview:

[Passage omitted] [Al-Rashid] You visited Ethiopia recently and held meetings and talks with its leaders. What are the results of this visit on the party and government levels?

[Muhammad] Ethiopia is a friendly neighboring state and the relations among the two peoples and revolutions in the PDRY and Ethiopia are clear. Ethiopian leaders were briefed on the 13 January 1986 incidents by one side. Therefore, they believed that what took place was a coup attempt. Consequently, they thought their previous stand was in support of the PDRY people and revolution. However, a few weeks after the conspiracy, when the situation had been clearly explained to them, they redressed their stand and the two leaderships in Aden and Addis Ababa renewed contacts. In light of this, our naval units, which fled to Ethiopia at the order of the former navy commander who fled with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and several personnel to Ethiopia after the conspiracy, have returned to Aden.

The situation has improved and new meetings were held between the two leaderships. The most important meeting in this regard was between the YSP secretary general and the Ethiopian president in Moscow, and the YSP secretary general's visits. Several party and government agreements were signed during my visit. We are continuing our efforts to promote relations among our peoples and parties and to show their desire to spread peace and stability in the entire region and not only in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea regions. My visit to Ethiopia was a good opportunity to exchange views and consultations on the situation in the region, particularly Ethiopian-Sudanese relations. My goal was to understand the new situation in Sudan and the end of Numayri's era and to help settle fraternal Sudan's issues. We also discussed Somali-Ethiopian relations. We feel that it is our duty to help the Sudanese, Somali, and Ethiopian peoples settle their problems through dialogue and noninterference in domestic affairs. The Ethiopian leadership fully understands these issues.

We and Ethiopia face the common challenges of an imperialist military presence in the region. We believe that we and the Ethiopians should confront these challenges, find means of peaceful coexistence in the region, and adopt a stand in the region toward the Gulf war, whose continuation would lead to the interference of imperialist forces on any pretext. In light of this, we deemed it necessary to coordinate stands to confront the possibilities of the deteriorating situation.

In general, the visit was within the framework of the PDRY action in the foreign political field. The YSP secretary general's visit to Moscow, Chairman Al-'Attas visit to the Gulf states and to some Arab states, the prime minister's visit to the PRC and India, and other PDRY officials' visits to the fraternal and friendly states are all within this framework.

YAR

Petroleum Minister Leaves for France, Tunisia

JN141824 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Brother Ahmad 'Ali al-Muhani, minister of petroleum and minteral resources, has left for Paris heading a delegation on visits to France and Tunisia for talks with officials of both countries on bilateral cooperation in oil and mineral resources. Minister Al-Muhani told SABA' his talks with France's minister of industry and tourism [title as heard] will center on cooperation in the areas of oil, gas, and a complete geological survey of the republic. They will also consider the prospects of finding minerals in our country, as well as the training of Yemeni personnel in the skills of the oil and gas industries.

The minister said he would then proceed to Tunis for talks with Tunisia's minister of energy and mines on bilateral cooperation and the possibility of using Tunisian expertise in organizing and running gas companies as well as in the local marketing of petroleum products.

Further on Polish Premier's Meeting With Mubarak

NC141035 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Cairo, 14 Apr (MENA) — Following President Husni Mubarak's 75-minute meeting this morning with the chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi stated that the meeting went well and was fruitful. He said: The international situation as seen by Egypt and Poland, current developments, and the issues to which Egypt attaches special importance, particularly the Middle East question and the Iraq-Iran war, were discussed during the session.

Dr Sidqi noted that the conferees also examined the question of holding an international conference, the possibility of making progress in this area, and the different declared stands on the conference. He confirmed that Egypt called for this conference because, in its opinion, it is the only practical way of reaching a settlement to the Middle East problem and the Palestinian issue.

The prime minister said that, in addition, the discussions covered political and trade ties between Egypt and Poland. He noted that Egypt already has trade links with Poland — Egypt and Poland signed a trade agreement last year — and another accord may be signed during this trip or at some later date.

Talks End; Protocol Signed

NC141955 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] A joint communique on the Egyptian-Polish talks will be issued tomorrow night in both Cairo and Warsaw. Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi and Zbigniew Messner, his Polish counterpart, co-chaired the final session of talks tonight.

After tonight's meeting, which was held at the prime minister's office, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said collaboration in economics, culture, education, and information had been discussed. Egypt and Poland, he added, agreed to sign long-term trade accords and to stimulate bilateral commerce.

With regard to cultural matters, the two countries agreed that Poland would help with the restoration of Egyptian monuments and that Egypt would send some of its museum pieces for exhibition in Poland. In education, the two countries agreed to increase the exchange of scholarships.

According to Al-Sharif, the chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers said during the talks that his visit to Egypt had been successful and that his meeting with President Husni Mubarak had been encouraging. The Polish prime minister praised President Mubarak's views on international issues. He also hailed Egypt's efforts for Middle East and global peace.

Prime Minister Sidqi said the talks had been conducted in a cordial atmosphere. The Polish prime minister invited Dr Sidqi to visit Warsaw and Sidqi accepted. The date of the trip will be fixed later.

Before the talks ended, a protocol was signed for cooperation between the Egyptian Radio and Television Association and Polish radio and television. Husayn 'Anan, chairman of the Egyptian Radio and Television Association, signed the protocol on behalf of Egypt, while the director of Polish radio and television did so for his country. The accord, which will be effective for 3 years and is renewable automatically, encourages the exchange of programs and expert visits.

Prime Minister Sidqi gave a banquet in honor of the Polish head of government and his entourage.

Mubarak Message Read at Seminar on Saudi Ties

NC141625 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak addressed a message this morning to a seminar on Egyptian-Saudi relations in the first half of the 20th century. The message was read by Education Minister Dr Fathi Surur.

President Mubarak's message said that Egyptian-Saudi relations have ancient roots and that friendship between the two countries has continued in the second half of the 20th century; it was not confined to the first. Egyptian-Saudi solidarity was particularly evident at the recent ICO summit in Kuwait, the president noted, where Saudi Arabia and Egypt played a vital role in the discussion of many Arab issues, foremost of which was the Palestinian question. The two countries also endorsed the independence of Arab states and the liberation of Islamic nations. The two countries also condemn apartheid, he said. The president asserted that this seminar highlights the understanding and friendship between the Egyptian and Saudi peoples. Close cooperation between the two countries is particularly enhanced by the principles of Islam and Arab civilization.

President Mubarak expressed hope that the seminar would make recommendations on strengthening scientific collaboration between Egyptian and Saudi universities in light of their common history.

Today's opening session of the seminar was attended by the education minister; the rectors of the Al-Zaqaziq and Suez Canal Universities; Muhammad ibn Saud, the rector of Ibn Saud Islamic University in Riyadh; Egyptian and Saudi academicians; and specialists in Islamic history and mass media. The seminar will include 3 days of meetings at the Suez Canal University.

Mubarak, King Husayn Hold Telephone Conversation

NC142025 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2015 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Cairo, 14 Apr (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan, who is now in London, had a telephone conversation this evening.

'Abd al-Majid on Amman Accord, PNC Meeting

NC141148 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Cairo, 14 Apr (MENA) — Commenting on PLO Executive Comittee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's announcement on the

abolition of the Amman accord between Jordan and the PLO, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid [deputy prime minister and foreign minister] said: We heard this piece of news, which was broadcast and published yesterday, but we must wait until the PNC convenes in Algeria next week. Egypt's stand on the Amman accord is known. In our view, Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement and understanding are the basic elements for any political move in the region.

He expressed hope that exchanges and relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian brothers would continue. He stated: With respect to what was published today, I suggest that we wait for the meeting of the PNC, as it is the legitimate authority for the PLO and has ratified the Amman accord. If there are certain trends within the Palestinian movement that oppose this agreement, let us wait and learn about them. He noted that Egypt's position on this has been clearly defined. In Egypt's view, there must be Jordanian-Palestinian coordination before a political move in the region will be fruitful.

Responding to a question on the prospects for convening an international peace conference this year in the event that the PNC cancels the Amman accord, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said: Actually, I do not want to speculate. However, I am certain the Palestinian brothers appreciate all the thoughts and consideration given to this sensitive issue. I prefer that we wait for the results of the PNC meeting to see whether there will be any effort expended to reach a plan that clarifies Jordanian-PLO relations. The deputy prime minister noted that the PNC played a role in preparing for the Amman accord. He said the PNC is the Palestinian movement's parliament and must have an opinion on the matter [words indistinct]. He also mentioned that the PNC is the true democratic body of the Palestinian movement.

Referring to Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans' visit to Egypt on Thursday, he declared: As current EEC chairman, Belgium has a role to play in the Community. My previous meetings with the Belgian foreign minister allowed me to gauge the extent of his interest in the Middle East. The EEC's stand, which was declared in its communique of 23 February, was constructive. The EEC supports the international conference and has certain views on questions pertinent to it. We are currently exchanging opinions, and the move within the framework of Egyptian-EEC relations is very useful.

Sidqi: 'Most' Differences with IMF Resolved

NC142021 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1955 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Cairo, 14 Apr (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi has declared that most of the differences between Egypt and the IMF have been resolved. He added that an Egyptian delegation will leave for Washington in the next 2 weeks to prepare the final draft of the agreement.

This evening, Prime Minister Sidqi met with Dr Salah Hamid, director of the Egyptian Central Bank. They reviewed the results of Hamid's recent talks in Washington with IMF officials.

Prime Minister Sidqi on Economy, Other Issues

JN120930 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 9 Apr 87 p 13

[Interview with Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi by unidentified correspondent in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] *Al-Ittihad*: Your Excellency Dr 'Atif Sidqi, what do you think is required to boost the Egyptian economy and extricate it from its current crisis?

Sidqi: Perhaps the most important aspect of the current Egyptian economy is a shortage of foreign exchange. This shortage is a result of the decrease in oil prices. Egypt relied and still relies on oil as a major source of foreign currency. The decline in oil prices has reduced our sources of foreign currency. There has also been a fall in remittances from Egyptians working abroad because of the decline in their incomes, which is directly attributable to lower oil prices in those exporting states that host the greatest number of Egyptian laborers. In addition, lower numbers of tourists visiting Egypt have cut Egypt's supply of foreign exchange. This decrease can be explained by many things, the most important of which are the events that took place in 1985 and 1986. Some of these incidents occurred in the Middle East and others took place in Western Europe. This discouraged tourists from coming to the region, and subsequently to Egypt.

I can say that all these reasons led to the shrinking of Egypt's foreign exchange supplies, thus complicating the problem of Egypt's payment of foreign debts and their interest. However, Egypt always affirms its commitment to paying its debts. It did not and will not stop paying them. Therefore, when Egypt faced this problem it embarked on negotiations with the creditor countries to reschedule its debts. We had to negotiate with the IMF to prepare for this rescheduling. We hope to reach a program for rescheduling Egypt's debts soon so as to ease the pressure on Egypt's economy and balance of payments. So much for the urgent problem.

As for the long-term problem, I believe that development is the only way out for Egypt. The process of development is a structural one above all else. I mean its primary goal is what we economists call the restructuring of the national economy so as to make it more balanced. The problem of development in Egypt lies in the fact that it is not a short-term problem, but a medium- or long-term one. Egypt is now working hard to develop its economy.

We are about to end the 1982-87 first 5-year plan in which investment totals 37 billion pounds. We are now preparing for the second stage, the second 5-year development plan covering the period 1987-92, which will take begin on 1 July.

In fact, the first 5-year plan achieved many of its objectives. I believe that a great part of what has been accomplished will help solve many problems. The second 5-year development plan will follow the same path. I mean it will continue to tackle the problems that should have been overcome at the beginning of the development process in preparation for the development boom, God willing.

Al-Ittihad: What are the most distinctive features of the second 5-year development plan?

Sidqi: The distinctive features of the second 5-year development plan focus on three main axes:

The first axis concerns the completion of projects that have already been launched. It also provides for the launching of new projects that will basically benefit from previous projects.

The second axis concerns the enhancement and consolidation of the principle of self-reliance. Self- reliance for Egypt is a duty in many fields, the most important of which is the food sector. Egypt is now importing a large percentage of its food needs; this percentage exceeds 50 percent. I believe we cannot continue to live with this situation. Hence, we will work diligently to reduce Egypt's dependence on imports to meet its food needs through the intensification of the agricultural output we call vertical agricultural development and also through an ambitious land reclamation program with an important role for the state. God willing, we will try to attract private capital so as to permit it to participate in the land reclamation program in Egypt. God willing, the forthcoming 5-year development plan will reclaim 100,000-125,000 feddans a year. Thus, the grand total of land Egypt seeks to reclaim in the next 5 years is 600,000 feddans. This is a large area of land; if we succeed in focusing our attention on the implementation of this program, this will, God willing, help us resolve the food problem.

We can say that the question of self-reliance is based on an objective that seeks to do everything possible to reduce Egypt's dependence on foreign loans and current external resources. Of course, this is not an easy task, as the process of development requires an increase in imports or at least the importation of intermediate materials, machines, and equipment needed to maintain the process of development.

The third axis concerns the greatest possible reduction of what we call the foreign component of investment so as to help advance some industries that may serve the investment process instead of importing all our requirements. I want to emphasize a very important point; namely, that the achievement of this objective does not mean Egypt will isolate itself from the entire world, as that is illogical, unnatural, and out of the question. However, we want to reduce as much as possible our dependence on external resources. This will facilitate for future generations the task of carrying out the development process, especially if foreign and domestic resources and food investments are properly utilized in the service of Egypt's development.

Al-Ittihad: The Egyptian pound has recently recorded a noticeable decline against the dollar in the money exchange market (the black market). What do you believe is the ideal means to control this market in a manner that encourages Egyptians, especially those working abroad, to deal with national banks? And how can the deteriorating state of the pound be tackled?

Sidqi: The ideal means to control the money changers lies in a realistic approach to fixing the pound's rate of exchange. It is certain that citizens will not resort to money changers once the government fixes a realistic or semi-realistic exchange rate. The pound's deteriorating exchange rate can only be rectified by greater production and more exports — the only strong and effective way of solving this problem. This is an interrelated issue. When production increases, exports rise, making it possible for us to reduce imports. The reduction of imports is an effective means of stabilizing the balance of payments.

Al-Ittihad: Why does the government not impose price controls?

Sidqi: Controlling prices creates what we call a black market of commodities and supply materials, like the one in which brokers buy soap and then sell it at a higher price, etc. The most important thing we can say here is that if we want to prevent price increases, that is, to prevent this increase in the future — the objective which we in Egypt are currently trying to achieve — we must try to tackle the causes of the existing unnatural increase in market purchasing power, boost output, and increase supply to help prevent sharp price hikes.

Al-Ittihad: Does the Egyptian Government have a plan or policy concerning a change in the subsidies that represent such a large portion of the Egyptian budget and the way those who truly deserve them will benefit from these supports?

Sidqi: We have drawn up more than one study on subsidies. The problem here lies in the fact that subsidies are too costly and that everybody benefits from them. The well-off, as well as the poor for whom the subsidies were instituted and allocated, benefit from them. The first point I want to stress is that cancellation of subsidies is out of the question; this is a matter of principle. However, subsidies are currently being misused in a manner that allows for the appearance of a black market, which we have been fighting with all our resources. First and foremost, we must determine who should benefit from subsidies, as well as ways to guarantee that they do. This is not easy, as there are many interrelated considerations that must be taken into account when we try to determine who should benefit. Some proposals on this have been submitted. One stipulates that the government do away with the subsidy system and replace it with one of monetary allowances. This means that, instead of subsidizing commodities, we would be helping the individual directly by giving him a sort of allowance. But this idea does not solve the problem, as the issue of those who deserve subsidies would then be raised. Some people believe that government and public sector employees deserve subsidies. We also found that there are those outside the government and public sector who also deserve to buy subsidized goods.

Al-Ittihad: Is there a tendency to raise the salaries of government and public sector employees in the forthcoming period?

Sidqi: The issue of raising salaries is under consideration. This raise actually takes place each year at the start of the fiscal year; this is what we call the annual raise. In addition, employees received pay raises in 1984-85 through what was called exceptional raises or nonperiodic allowances. The fact that must be revealed is that salaries cannot match the rate of price increases. Hence, an idea has emerged proposing that the wage structure be reviewed in a manner that links salaries to prices. This idea has yet to take definitive shape. Most countries are applying this

measure and we are currently studying all aspects of this idea to come up with ways to implement it. However, we want to emphasize that the best situation conducive to wage increases is created by boosting worker productivity, in both the public and private sectors. The increase in production paves the way for and facilitates the efforts that seek to tie salaries to prices.

This matching process is important and dangerous at the same time, as any salary increase, if not accompanied by a jump in production and productivity, will result in additional price increases. Therefore, we must be fully aware of this fact. There must be a link between increased production and productivity on one hand and wage increases on the other.

Al-Ittihad: How far have you gotten in your talks with the IMF?

Sidqi: Our talks with the IMF are moving in the right direction and are making continuous progress. They have now reached their final stages. I believe we do not need more than one or two sessions to reach a final agreement.

I would now like to explain the nature and objective of these talks. First, we are a member of the IMF. As an international organization, the IMF is concerned with helping member-states technically and financially to help them overcome short-term crises.

As I said earlier, we in Egypt are currently suffering from a lack of liquidity due to a drop in our foreign currency reserves thanks to problems that occurred all at once and in the same year. These are: The drop in oil prices, shortage of tourists, and the fall in remittances from Egyptians working abroad. In such circumstances, it is our right and also the duty of the IMF to help us cope with these problems. This is what is happening now. The IMF has experts in all economic fields. We are discussing our problems with these experts and are trying to find solutions to them. Naturally, economic problems in any country have their social side, which result in certain obligations for the country concerned. These obligations are often raised in the talks. Normally, there are no points of disagreement on the reform programs themselves, but the talks are conducted in such a way that they do not affect the interests of the people and their working class.

Al-Ittihad: What are the conditions or proposals set by the IMF and what effect will they have on the ordinary Egyptian?

Sidqi: First, I would like to say in general that the IMF proposals are linked to measures designed to achieve economic reform. As I said, some of these proposals may be passive in that they do not tackle the special social conditions of every state.

I would like to add here that before contacting the IMF in November I met with my brother experts to carry out our own study, which was independent of the IMF and its proposals and talks, with a view to pinpointing measures to bring about economic reform in Egypt. We concluded that there must be some changes in the concepts and methods of work in many positions to conduct economic reform that will achieve the development we need and take into consideration our social and economic circumstances in the manner I described earlier.

Many points in our own study agreed with the IMF's report. There may also be some points of disagreement on the methods of implementing certain proposals due to Egypt's special circumstances.

As for running the public sector, I must acknowledge here that a great change has taken place over the last 2 years. The public sector in Egypt was formerly run on social bases rather than economic ones. This situation had to be reconsidered, especially after it was proved through studies that the public sector, as a productive sector, must be run in accordance with economic criteria, like any other private project in terms of administration, prices, and control. Naturally, such a change must not affect the public sector's social role, which is to provide basic commodities to the population at reasonable prices. I am interested here in pointing out that running the public sector purely on social bases will lead to successive, escalating losses for its projects, thus leading to its failure as a productive sector. This would have an extremely negative social impact on the people, the working classes, and the national economy with all its public sector investments.

Our studies show that we can either force the project to sell its products at prices lower than the actual cost without the profits necessary to continue — and in this case it would fail and have a negative impact — or prices would have to be determined according to sound economic bases. This may increase prices to levels higher than the working class can afford. This leads to the question of subsidies. We decided to achieve both objectives at the same time. First, that the public sector, which is the people's property, should not sustain successive losses leading to the worst effect on the national economy, and second, the people for whose sake subsidization was instituted should benefit from public sector production. We decided that this can be done by running the public sector projects using sound economic methods . This can be achieved by subsidizing commodities after they leave the private sector; that is, if the price of a commodity ammounts to 5 piasters, while the circumstances of those with limited income only allow them to purchase it for 4 piasters, the public sector will sell it for 5 piasters. The distributor will sell it at 4 piasters and the government will pick up the difference.

We conducted this study 3 years ago before having any contacts with the Fund. The same can be applied to the price of kerosene and other items. The principle is that the producer sells the commodity at its economic price, while the government shoulders the difference, which will be determined in accordance with the existing social circumstances and the classes to benefit from this form of subsidization.

I must point out here that this method will rationalize consumption. This is very important in light of the scarcity of resources, especially foreign currency. [passage omitted]

Al-Ittihad: Concerning policy toward the United States, what were the results of the Egyptian-U.S. talks on settling debts?

Sidqi: Egypt and the United States are linked by excellent, distinctive relations in all political and economic fields. As for economic relations, the United States extends much economic

aid to Egypt annually. As for the debts, negotiations are under way to find the best ways of settling them.

As I said, the general line can be described as excellent and distinctive. The United States is very understanding of Egypt's economic and political positions. I believe that through this understanding, the United States can play a greater role in solving the Middle East problem. As for economic aid, the United States extends military and civil assistance.

We appreciate this stand by the United States and we thank all countries that extend aid to Egypt, specifically, West European countries and Japan. Some Arab states also cooperate with us.

I want to say that the U.S. stand is tat of a friendly country supporting Egypt.

Al-Ittihad: Where do Egyptian-Soviet relations stand now?

Sidqi: Egypt is very eager to maintain good relations with the USSR. I believe that presently these relations can be described as good. A few days ago, the Egyptian economy and trade minister visited Moscow, where an agreement was reached to solve the outstanding problems between the two countries, especially the problem of the military and economic debts.

Al-Ittihad: What is your opinion on the Brazilian Government's decision to freeze debts? Can Egypt make a similar decision and what are Egypt's plans to repay its debts?

Sidqi: I would like to point out first that Egypt has never stopped paying its debts at home or abroad. I repeat never. This is a well-known point in Egypt's record of foreign debt. The foreign debt problem did not begin in Egypt. Egypt has never shirked its financial obligations or its promises at home or abroad.

Some countries may have disavowed their debts, but this will never be the case with Egypt.

You may ask: What are you going to do in Egypt? I say: We will pay our debts despite our foreign currency constraints. Talks are currently taking place between us and creditor countries to reschedule these debts — in other words, delaying and reorganizing the payment of these according to a new timetable. Each debt is accompanied by a timetable for repayment as well as payment of its interest. [passage omitted]

Al-Ittihad: Will Egypt resort to seeking loans from the Arab states to finance its development plan?

Sidqi: We would be pleased to see Arab capital invested in our projects. We hope that Arab captial would flow into Egypt in the form of loans or direct investment. We welcome it in any form.

Al-Ittihad: What is Egypt's reaction to Shamir's rejection of the international conference idea?

Sidqi: We have nothing to do with the differences between Shamir and Peres. An agreement with the head of the Israeli Government was announced to the whole world last September. We do not deal with people, but with the head of the Israeli Government, who was Shim'on Peres at the time. He agreed to the international conference. I believe that this agreement binds both Egypt and Israel, whether it is headed by Peres or Shamir.

Al-Ittihad: It has been observed that the statement released after Shim'on Peres' last visit to Egypt did not refer to the PLO. Does this mean Egypt has changed its attitude toward the PLO?

Sidqi: Egypt maintains a firm stand on the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinians. The PLO's participation in the settlement is essential and vital.

Al-Ittihad: How do you view the settlement of the Iraq-Iran war?

Sidqi: Egypt hopes the Iraq-Iran war will end peacefully. Egypt has made several attempts to this end and is participating in every effort for a solution, be it on the Islamic, nonaligned, or UN level. It is not natural for two Islamic states who are members of the Nonaligned Movement and the ICO to be so hostile to one another and to continue to shed Muslim blood without any real justification.

Al-Ittihad: Regarding the U.S. attitude to the Middle East problem and the Arab states, do you believe there will be any change following the American arms scandal?

Sidqi: This question can best be answered by the President of the United States and his secretary of state.

Communique No 2,641 on 13-14 Apr War Operations

JN141627 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Communique No 2,641 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 April 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our troops, backed by God, continued their combat missions last night and today against the herds of the Zionist, Khomeyniite clique, inflicting the following new losses on the aggressors:

1. Our forces in the III Army Corps sector east of Al- Basrah continued to fire on the enemy units before them, inflicting these losses: Some 11 infantry positions and 5 vehicles were destroyed; 2 armored personnel carriers were wrecked; 5 enemy personnel were killed; 6 ammunition dumps were blown up; and 1 bulldozer, a shovel [preceding word in English], and a grader [preceding word in English] were destroyed.

Our units in the same sector seized the following weapons: 45 rifles of various types, 50 light launchers, 10 BKC machine guns, 6 106-mm mortars, and a 13.5-mm heavy machine gun.

2. Our units in the VII Army Corps sector have attacked enemy positions, assembly points, and engineering works, inflicting losses in men and materiel. They also achieved the following: The burning of a launcher, the demolition of nine ammunition dumps, the burning of two vehicles, and the destruction of several infantry positions.

3. Two enemy personnel were killed and three others were wounded in the II Army Corps central sector.

4. Two vehicles were damaged, three infantry positions were destroyed, and their occupants were either killed or wounded in the I Army Corps sector.

5. Two weapons emplacements and three infantry positions were destroyed and a number of enemy personnel were killed in the sector held by the Special I Army Corps — the Allahu Akbar Forces.

6. The Zionist, Khomeyniite regime's forces shelled residential areas in the city of Al-Qurnah with long-range artillery. As a result, two civilians were martyred, another was wounded, and some private property and homes were damaged. Mercy and forgiveness for our martyrs and swift recovery for our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 April 1987

UN Told of Iran's Shelling of Residential Areas

JN141737 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1715 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] United Nations, 14 Apr (INA) — Iraq has informed the UN Security Council that the Iranian regime has continued to shell the pure residential areas of Iraq. The message, which 'Ismat Kittani, Iraq's permanent UN representative, handed to Javier Perez de Cuellar and distributed to the members of the Security Council, says that the forces of the Iranian regime shelled residential and industrial sections of the city of Basra on 7 April, causing heavy damage to civilian installations.

Weapons Consignment From Egypt Reported

JN141903 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 13 Apr 87 p 1

[Text] *Al-Ittihad* has learned that Iraq recently received a new and important consignment of Egyptian-made weapons and military hardware including 12 Tucano training planes, 10 Gazelle helicopters, 'Ayn al-Saqr surface-to-air missiles, T-55 tanks, armored vehicles, field guns, mortars, rocket launchers, and ammunition of various calibers.

National Assembly Speaker Leaves For Tunis

JN140811 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Apr (INA) — Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and National Assembly speaker, left today at the head of a delegation for an official visit to Tunis that will last several days.

In a statement to INA, Hammadi said he will hold talks with Tunisian National Assembly President Mahmoud Messadi to promote relations between the two legislatures. He added that the delegation will also discuss ways of promoting ties among Arab parliaments, coordinating stands at international forums, and reactivating the Arab nation's aspirations.

Amal Notes Clashes With Palestinians Near Sidon

NC141209 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] The Fifth Branch of the Amal Movement's Central Military Bureau reports that there was severe tension along the combat lines east of Sidon at 0500 today when pro-'Arafat gangs disrupted the security situation in an attempt to foil the Damascus agreement. Calm was restored there at 0700.

According to Amal's Fifth Branch, the level of tension rose when a pro-'Arafat group tried to advance on the Jinsnaya-Baysur axis. This sparked a clash between the members of the Palestinian group and Amal personnel in the area. Various types of weapons were used in the clash, in which the assailants were repulsed. The Fifth Branch announced that the Amal fighters managed to frustrate the Palestinian attempts to advance.

Syrian Troops Approach Sidon

NC141520 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Our correspondent in Sidon has quoted security sources in the city as saying that some Syrian Arab troops have begun to deploy on the coastal road between Khaldah and Al-Awwali, alongside Lebanese Army soldiers already positioned there.

The NNA correspondent in Sidon has reported that the first of these troops arrived at the northern entrance to Sidon a short while ago. They immediately began security tasks, with the support of the Lebanese Army and internal security forces.

Roadblocks Strengthened

NC141611 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Regarding the extension of the security plan and reports of a joint Syrian-regular Lebanese Army deployment on the coastal road between Khaldah and Al-Awwali, a source in the Syrian Arab Forces has stated that Syrian observers are merely taking up positions they should have manned when the coastal road plan was implemented by the Lebanese Army's 12th Brigade.

Lebanese Army roadblocks on the coastal road between Khaldah and Al-Awwali have, in fact, been strengthened by Syrian Arab Army personnel. The Syrian force numbers some 120 soldiers, 25 of whom are deployed at the northern entrance to Sidon.

Fighting Erupts East of Sidon

NC151031 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] Clashes involving the use of automatic weapons and rockets have been taking place since this morning on the combat lines of Kafr Falus, Lib'a, and 'Ayn al-Mir. Shells have fallen all along the 'Abra-'Ayn al-Mir line, and the explosions can be heard in Sidon.

Meanwhile, Israeli military aircraft flew over the south, Beirut, and the mountain this morning, breaking the sound barrier. Two Israeli gunboats were also seen sailing along the coast off Sidon.

Syrians, PSP Clash in 'Alayh

NC150642 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] According to currently available information, some units of the Syrian occupation army and a number of PSP members have clashed in 'Alayh. Men from both sides have been wounded and the main roads between 'Alayh and Bhamdun have been cut. This action occurred as 120 Syrian soldiers deployed in the following four areas: Al-Awwali, Al-Jiyah, Al-Sa'diyat, and Khaldah [along the coastal road]. AFP has cited the Syrian command in Beirut as admitting the incident but denying that any of its personnel were wounded. Meanwhile, a group of gunmen in 'Alayh ambushed a bus carrying members of Birri's Amal Movement from Al-Biqa' to West Beirut. The Amal men had just completed their combat training. One passenger was killed and three others were wounded. The others aboard the bus were held for some time and then released.

Karami: No Cabinet Meeting Before Agreement

NC141934 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami stressed once again today that the cabinet cannot convene as a political body before an agreement is reached through [the talks in] Damascus. He added that the government is prepared to meet to remedy economic and social problems. However, it will do so only if no one interferes with public institutions and utilities in East Beirut, if all crossing points are opened, and if the Army is given sole responsibility for security in the eastern zone. The Army, with the help of the Syrian forces, is in charge of security in our areas.

The prime minister made this statement after chairing the weekly meeting of the West Beirut General Committee in his home at 1700. Also present at the meeting were Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran, Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi, and the committee members. The conferees reviewed the security situation in West Beirut in light of the measures that have been adopted, particularly those designed to end the camps war.

Gunmen Assassinate SSNP Official in West Beirut

NC142048 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Two gunmen assassinated Elie al-Farra, an official of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP], near the Bristol Hotel in West Beirut this evening. In another development, gunmen fired on Mahmud 'Ali Ghazalah, the SSNP official in Mashgharah, seriously wounding him and a number of his aides. The incident occurred on the outskirts of the village of 'Ana on the Kifrayya-Qabb Ilyas Road in western Al-Biqa'.

Rabin Assesses West Bank, Mideast Situations
TA141334 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1005 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Nahman Shay and Gay Zohar on Passover eve, 13 April; place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Shay] Mr Defense Minister, this interview with you is held on the eve of Passover and is marked by two tragic incidents that took place over the weekend: Two IDF soldiers, Ronen Eylon and Ilan Haziza, were killed in Lebanon, and an Alfe Menashe settler, 'Ofra Moses, was killed by terrorists near Qalqilyah. Therefore, I am starting this interview with the following question: Does this grave incident near Qalqilyah symbolize or indicate a deterioration in the state of security in Judaea and Samaria?

[Rabin] This tragic incident, this criminal and murderous attempt by Palestinian terrorists to burn a whole family alive by throwing a Molotov cocktail at their car is a continuation of quite a few such attempts made in recent years, involving the throwing of Molotov cocktails. This is not the last bottle either. Luckily, up until this last tragic incident, except for one case 2 years ago, in the Qalqilyah area as well, there had been no cases of burning cars that resulted in the death of their passengers. Therefore, I would not like to view this as an expression of escalation. I would describe the situation in the territories today as one marked by an increased number of disturbances rather than one marked by increased terrorist acts. We began to witness a rise in the disturbances at the beginning of last December. The death of several students and youths in the wake of a series of incidents, especially at the universities, led to greater ferment and tension in the territories. Since then the internal tension in the territories has increased, with one excuse or another occasionally triggering disturbances, as we have seen lately in the wake of the hunger strike by the terrorists in Israeli jails.

[Shay] Do you view this act of throwing a hand grenade [as heard] as a usual or unusual disturbance?

[Rabin] Let me repeat, in parallel with the disturbances, we have witnessed long years of terrorist acts in various forms — by planting bombs, stabbing Israeli citizens who visited the Gaza Strip and other areas, and shooting and murdering Israelis on the Gilboa' mountain, in Nabulus, near Bet Shemesh and Mevo'ot Betar. Terrorism exists. I distinguish here between terrorism, as manifested in throwing Molotov cocktails and more grave acts, and the phenomena of disrupting order. Certainly, there is a connection between the two. Those engaged in inciting disturbances, and those engaged, indirectly and more covertly, in terrorism are first and foremost the Palestinian terror organizations, led by 'Arafat'. The activity, the inspiration come from the outside and is implemented by elements in the territories. The East Jerusalem press induces general incitement and support for the PLO policy. One increasingly hears calls from instigators and clergymen in the territories for disturbances and solidarity with the PLO.

[Shay] May one find some link between the rise in disturbances and terrorist actions, and the discussions, the intensity of such discussions, on the international conference?

[Rabin] Absolutely not. I think that all attempts that have been and are being made to vindicate, in a wicked manner I would say, the Palestinian terrorist organizations through arguments based on one Israeli policy or another is a clear folly and grave error by those Israelis who do so. I am referring to those who link increased terrorist activities to discussions over a political solution, a peace process through an international conference, as well as those who link increased terrorism to settlers' conduct and actions or to existing or increased settlement activity. Any attempt to divert exclusive responsibility for this terror from the murderous PLO terrorist organizations to an Israeli element is unrealistic since PLO terror existed long before large-scale settlement activity and the raising of the international conference idea. Therefore, it seems to me that as Israelis we sin by attributing to ourselves responsibility for activity such as this abominable murder committed by throwing a Molotov cocktail at the Moses family, instead of focusing everyone's attention on the desire for terrorism inherent in the very existence of the PLO terrorist organizations.

[Zohar] We will probably get to a discussion of a political solution later on. However, to get back to last Saturday's incident, the Jewish settlers in Judaea and Samaria have always had complaints about the defense establishment, about the state of security there. Yesterday, however, some lines may have been crossed: Clear accusations were made vis-a-vis the IDF, combined with activity that smacked of "let's get them."

[Rabin] I want to make it clear, as I have done on various occasions, that all the Israeli Governments since the 6-Day War have left the political and legal fate of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza open to political negotiations. No government, regardless of its major political component, has proposed to change the existing status of military authorities and civilian administration. Namely, the fate of these territories has been left for determination in peace negotiations. This implies that we must maintain security in these areas for all residents, both Jews and Arabs, as long as we have not reached a political solution. Also, any attempt to present complete calm in the territories, namely, any attempt to say that it is possible, through military and administrative means only, to uproot terrorism, has been unrealistic over the last 20 years. In all periods, with ups and downs, terrorism has accompanied us as it has accompanied the life of Jewish settlement on the land of Israel over the last 100 years.

We must do our best to minimize, as much as possible, the number of Israeli casualties as a result of terrorism, to foil terrorist acts, and to strike as much as possible at those who want to strike at us.

As for the settlers in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, let me be unequivocal here. Following the cabinet decision of January 1985 about the redeployment in Lebanon, I told residents of northern settlements that I could not promise that no Katyusha would fall on them, but I promised that normal life in border settlements would not be disrupted. Whoever comes to live in a border settlement knows that life in such a settlement is not similar to

that in Netanya or Tel Aviv. I would like to say the same to the settlers in the territories: For ideological and other reasons you decided to settle in the territories. Your living conditions there and your problems are partially similar to those in a settlement that is exposed to possible terrorist acts and suffering. I did not promise, nor am I promising now that no terrorist act will be perpetrated within the territories or against that part of Israel within the pre-1967 borders. I do not believe that a prime minister, a government, or a defense minister can promise that no bomb will ever be placed in a soldiers' pickup station or a supermarket, or that no attempt to stab an Israeli citizen will be made. As long as the State of Israel has not reached peace and security we will live under the shadow of the threat of war and terrorist activities, which change in character and in place.

[Shay] It is only natural that the settlers should now raise the question of security. Sir, are you going to change your perception of daily security in Judaea and Samaria, add troops, or take a different attitude on this issue henceforth?

[Rabin] In view of the increase in the number of disturbances in the last 3 to 4 months, and in view of upcoming significant dates, such as the meeting of what they call the Palestine National Council on 20 April and the PLO's call to step up disturbances, we will have to take additional measures. We have reinforced IDF troops in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. We will have to take more far-reaching action against instigators within the law, and we will have to take all sorts of actions to make it safer for Israelis — and not just Israelis — to travel along the main roads in the territories. We will have to operate against foci of incitement and provocation, be they universities, schools, or the action committees that are more numerous in East Jerusalem. As is known, by virtue of being part of the State of Israel, the Civilian Administration and the Military Government do not apply to East Jerusalem, and we are more restricted in our activities there than in the rest of the territories. Of course, all this will come in addition to all the measures to prevent the creation and organization of terrorist gangs.

One should bear in mind that the number of real terrorist operations — such as throwing Molotov cocktails or grenades, shootings, and stabbings — has decreased significantly since the beginning of 1986, when compared to the same period the previous year. We intend to take measures because we are determined to maintain law and order and to pursue the war against terrorism to ensure the security of the entire population.

Moreover, the Palestinians in the Arab countries must realize that they will attain nothing through terrorism. They will not make us soften our policies by means of terrorist attacks. I believe the chances of promoting the peace process will increase as the situation grows calmer and as the danger of war decreases, while those chances will decline if the situation moves in the opposite direction.

[Shay] Would you like to see the settlers in the region joining your security efforts, or would you tell them: Leave this job to us and keep to your own sphere of activities?

[Rabin] I can understand the anger of the settlers of Alfe Menashe in the wake of the tragic end to the throwing of the Molotov cocktail. However, I am in no way prepared to put up with civilians taking the law into their own hands, regardless of whether they are Jews or Arabs. The IDF and the security forces are the ones in charge of maintaining the law and public order and of waging the war against terrorism. Any other activities will only exacerbate the situation. As we have seen in the past in Jerusalem, such activities only inspired and actually created tension in the territories and, to a large extent, generated the various incidents in Judaea and Samaria and later in Gaza.

[Zohar] Israel has been coping with terrorism not only in the territories, but also in Lebanon, where it paid a very heavy toll last Friday night. The new policy in the north has been in effect for over 2 years. Despite its great success, the question arising now — and the last incident may be proof of this — is whether this policy has not become obsolete and the time has not come to change it.

[Rabin] The test of the policy for fighting terrorism from inside Lebanon against targets in Israel lies in the results. Although over 2 years have passed since the change in policy was decided upon, the second anniversary of the IDF's deployment according to this government decision will be marked only in 1 and 1/2 months. In my view, the main test is peace in the Galilee. In a period of almost 2 years no Israeli has been killed as a result of terrorist operations launched from Lebanon against our settlements and citizens in the north. In that respect, the basic goal of our policy has been attained. We have been holding the security zone to attain this goal. Fifteen IDF soldiers have been killed, two were kidnapped in February 1986 by Hizballah, and a Phantom navigator fell prisoner to Amal in the process of attaining the goal of peace in the Galilee. This is a painful price, which was exacerbated by the death of two more soldiers in the security zone a few days ago.

I believe this is a constant war. Terrorism in Lebanon has not been eliminated. The PLO was dealt a severe blow but it was replaced by other organizations, such as Amal, Hizballah, and pro-Syrian Palestinian bodies. We have been witnessing the return of 'Arafat's PLO to Lebanon and diverse terrorist activities, first and foremost directed at the security zone. The war in and for the security zone is the war for peace in the Galilee. I believe that we will be able to attain the goal of peace in the Galilee and at the same time reduce the painful price we have been paying so far.

[Zohar] Does the current proximity of the Syrian presence in Beirut affect the security zone in any way?

[Rabin] At the moment it has no direct effect. In other words, there have been no Syrian activities directed against the security zone or Israel. But the Syrian leaders have publicly been encouraging the various Lebanese and Palestinian organizations to act against the security zone and Israel. The Syrian presence in Beirut, however, does not worry us in its present size and objectives.

The expansion of Syrian military involvement, as in the case of Lebanon in general and of Beirut in particular, does not constitute a problem in the Middle East within its current parameters. However it might become a problem in the event of

unforeseeable developments, such as a change in its involvement, the nature of this involvement, or its expansion beyond current boundaries. I have grounds to believe that the Syrians realize what Israel can and cannot accept.

[Shay] Have you made this clear to them, sir?

[Rabin] I will not elaborate on this point, certainly not in public. Our criteria for what is and what is not acceptable are Israel's security and its current policy of thwarting the terrorists' designs to prevent real peace in the Galilee.

[Shay] Another question about Lebanon: Is the IDF's limited presence in the security zone essential? Can we not do without it?

[Rabin] To the best of my knowledge, we cannot do without the IDF's limited presence, particularly when it comes to non-stationary activities that do not call for a permanent presence. The reasons are very simple: First, it is better not to encounter the terrorists on the border or 200 to 300 meters from an Israeli settlement, but 3, 5, or 8 km from the border inside Lebanese territory. In other words, even when it comes to preventing attacks on Israeli targets, it is better to anticipate the terrorists on Lebanese soil, in the security zone, than on the border or on Israeli soil. Second, to maintain the security zone we must occasionally help the South Lebanese Army [SLA], not become a substitute for it but help it out when confronted with a joint attack by Hizballah, Amal, and other Lebanese and Palestinian bodies. The extent of Israeli activities in the security zone depends on the operations against Israel and the security zone. As terrorist activities decrease, so will the IDF's activities in the security zone. If terrorist activities increase, we will have no choice but to increase our own operations accordingly.

[Shay] Mr Defense Minister, we mentioned Syria earlier. Not long ago, in an interview on the "Moqed" television program, you said you could discern some signs that Syria had slowed the growth of its Army and was perhaps toning down its military ambitions of attaining a strategic balance with Israel. Is that the situation today as well?

[Rabin] Look, until now we have spoken mainly about the terrorist threat. We should not forget that as far as Israel is concerned, the military threat is more dangerous. This threat might come from Arab countries with which we do not have peace treaties, namely all the Arab countries with the exception of Egypt. As far as this threat is concerned, our situation has improved. Egypt has been at peace with us for over 8 years, and even though our yearning for a normalization in relations has not materialized, the fact is that from the strategic-security point of view, the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty has taken Egypt out of the circle of war and has become a significant stabilizing factor in the Arab-Israeli conflict. If we add to this the Iraq-Iran war, which as outside observers we would not like to see won by either side — and my impression today, over 6 years since the beginning of the war, is that this will be the case — this leaves us only with Syria.

As you noted, we know today that President al-Asad's brutal and totalitarian regime cannot withstand the internal socioeconomic pressures that stem from the size of Syria's military budget representing 50 to 60 percent of government expenditures. The Syrian regime has been forced to ease the economic and budgetary constraints. Indeed, there are signs that at least as far as the ground forces are concerned, the size of the regular army — not the size of the troops in the event of war, which would include the mobilization of the reserves — has been slightly reduced. In other words, the forecast for the military threat in the near future — to the extent that one can make a cautious assessment of the future in the Middle East — is that our situation has improved and will continue to improve. At the same time, the IDF must be strong and Israel must maintain its preparedness and alertness. We have no intention whatsoever of reducing our preparedness and alertness on the Golan Heights, despite what I said about Syria.

[Zohar] Could these reports about an improvement have brought about the talk, particularly on the part of the United States, by Jimmy Carter and Ambassador Richard Murphy, cautiously speaking about Syria's willingness to join an international conference?

[Rabin] To the best of my knowledge, Syria's terms for its participation in an international peace conference are unacceptable to anybody in Israel. I am also doubtful that they are acceptable to anybody in Europe and the United States. Syria regards the international conference as a tool for imposing its own kind of peace on Israel and for preventing any other form of peace between an Arab country and Israel.

[Shay] Then it is no partner to such a conference.

[Rabin] Syria's position today being what it is, I am very doubtful that it can be a partner to an international conference, which may, under certain circumstances, be acceptable to part of the Israeli Cabinet. [passage omitted]

[Zohar] The government will soon have to face another test, when the findings of the committees investigating the Pollard affair are published. This may be a slightly sensitive question: Are you apprehensive about those findings?

[Rabin] I do not intend to elaborate on this issue, especially not before the committees have completed their job. However, there is one point I would like to make clear. Anybody following what has been happening in certain circles in the United States, first and foremost the prosecution in the Pollard affair and perhaps certain elements in the U.S. Justice Department, cannot fail to notice that as far as these elements are concerned, the problem is not Pollard. Pollard has confessed and has been tried, and on the face of it the affair could be removed from the agenda of U.S.-Israeli relations. However, for one reason or another, and to quote those elements, they do not accept the Israeli Government's statement. The impression is that they are going ahead with their actions, including leaks to the media, to keep up the tension in U.S.-Israeli relations because they fear or suspect that there was not just one Pollard. This is the problem between us and these elements, or to be more precise, between them and us. Those who believe that the report of the Israeli committees will solve this problem are making a fundamental mistake.

[Shay] In other words, there are senior U.S. Administration officials who are currently interested...

[Rabin, interrupting] I did not say senior and I did not mention any names.

[Shay] No you did not, but you said the Justice Department and the prosecution in Washington.

[Rabin] I said elements of the Justice Department and of the prosecution in the district where Pollard's trial took place, for whom this has been the basic problem since June 1986. Everything they have been doing since then — be it on the issue of Avi'em Sela', the immunity granted to three others, or the daily leaks in the U.S. media — has nothing to do with the Pollard affair. Therefore it would be wrong for people in Israel to believe that the report of the committees will solve this problem, as long as those U.S. elements continue their activities.

[Shay] If these elements go ahead with their activities, do you foresee a threat to the special and very good relationship between Israel and the United States?

[Rabin] I believe that the basic interests shared by Israel and the United States, and the fundamental understanding and friendship that has been built over a long period, will also withstand the designs of those elements.

[Shay] Have these relations not been affected already?

[Rabin] I think it would be frivolous to say that the Pollard affair has not left any hard feelings or scars. However, taken in the context of U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation, practical matters have not been affected. All the projects planned — and I will not go into detail — have been carried out. Despite the hard feelings, activities in this sphere continue without any practical disruptions. [passage omitted]

Joint Contacts Propose 3 Palestinian Formulas

TA141340 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 13 Apr 87 p 1

[Text] *Al-Quds* has learned that intensive contacts are currently under way between Egypt, the PLO, Jordan, and Israel to reach a limited accord with regard to Palestinian representation at the proposed international peace conference. Cairo is striving to hold the preparatory meetings for this conference before the end of this year.

An Egyptian diplomatic source stated that there are three proposed formulas for Palestinian representation:

The first would allow the participation of leading Palestinian officials from the PLO.

The second would allow PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to name the Palestinian representatives to the international conference, provided they are not prominent Palestinians who are active in Palestinian organizational work. After making his decision, 'Arafat would inform the UN secretary general of the names of these individuals.

The third formula calls for Egypt, Israel, and Jordan to choose the Palestinians to take part in the international conference, provided the PLO has no objection to them.

A responsible Palestinian source said in Cairo that the Palestinian leadership believes the second formula is the best of the three, and may be acceptable to all the parties in the international conference.

Egyptian Request for PNC Members' Travel Rejected

TA150902 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 Apr 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari from Egypt, the political correspondent, and news agencies]

[Excerpt] Cairo — Egypt requested that Israel permit 52 members of the PNC, all residents of the territories, to leave for Algiers to participate in the Council meetings, but Israel rejected the Egyptian request. This was reported by a knowledgeable source in Cairo to the *'Al Hamishmar* correspondent. The source expressed concern over the pressure being exerted on Yasir 'Arafat to abrogate the Amman agreement. Egypt believes that the representatives from the territories could have provided some weight to counter the pressures being exerted on 'Arafat by the Palestinian leftist organizations. [passage omitted]

Syrians Deploy Outside Sidon on Al-Awwali Bridge

TA141614 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Syrian Army commando troops deployed along the coastal road leading from Beirut to Sidon this afternoon and took up positions on the Al-Awwali River on the outskirts of Sidon. This is reported by our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus, quoting reports from Beirut. According to these reports, several dozen Syrian soldiers have been stationed at a roadblock on the Al-Awwali Bridge, alongside the Lebanese Army's 12th Brigade. The 12th Brigade's command maintains close relations with the Syrian Army. The initial reports note that the Syrian soldiers are only equipped with light arms. The Al-Awwali Bridge is the southernmost position held by the Syrian Army in Lebanon. This is the first time that the Syrians have gotten close to the security zone in southern Lebanon. The Syrian force that moved to the south is part of the 7,500-men force Syria sent to Beirut almost 2 months ago.

Sources See 'No Significance'

TA141709 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Syrian Army commando troops have moved from Beirut southward to the Al-Awwali Bridge on the northern outskirts of Sidon. Quoting reports from Beirut, our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports that several dozen Syrian soldiers equipped with light arms have been stationed at a roadblock on the Al-Awwali Bridge.

Defense sources in Israel say that the IDF is following events in southern Lebanon. Nevertheless, the sources told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that these Syrian movements have no significance as far as Israel is concerned. These movements began a few weeks ago and do not entail large units or armored vehicles. The intention of the Syrians is to help the Lebanese Army impose order among warring factions.

David Levi Assesses Herut Convention Results
TA080839 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT (Leshabat Supplement) in Hebrew 3 Apr p 4

[Interview with David Levi, deputy prime minister and construction and housing minister by Orli Azulay-Katz; date and place not given: "Shamir Hasn't Finished With Me Yet"]

[Text] David Levi has taken up combat positions. On the morning after, he did not pick up the pieces or lower his profile. Over the sound of swords being brandished in his office, the bitterness could be heard. He has a very detailed and totally unforgiving list of "j'accuse" points. He settles scores with Shamir, Arens, and Sharon as only a wounded man can. He does not extend a hand in peace and does not invite compromise. He feels that his friends have betrayed him. Now, from within the eye of the hurricane, he is preparing his next war: The conquest of the leading position in Herut. "These three decided to do away with me and this is the first time I am saying this. But I will deal with them one by one. There will be a great many surprises yet."

[Azulay-Katz] Why do you think they want to remove you?

[Levi] Analyze the results and you will see. They were prepared to accept anything, even Kohen-Avidov, except David Levi. The rejoicing of the three ministers only proves this intention. I wanted to contend against them but they were afraid. Based on their behavior and their actions, I unequivocally assert that they want to remove me.

[Azulay-Katz] But Shamir said on the podium that he has no argument with you.

[Levi] Ideologically he is correct. But with regard to the moves he made and his behavior, I assert that I will have many more arguments with him in the future. He cannot speak to me with a tear in his eye and a sneer in his heart. He has a problem. In view of the coalition between him, Sharon, and Arens, I anticipate a number of very interesting things.

[Azulay-Katz] On the morning of the convention there was a consultation between the ministers, and you angrily withdrew from it.

[Levi] In the consultation we agreed on the agenda. It was necessary to decide that the item enabling an amendment to the constitution be raised first, so that it would be possible to elect a deputy. I went to another room with legal experts. According to the constitution, it emerged that I was right. Tahi Hanegbi, Shamir's adviser, joined us and he also said that I was right. He suggested that a document be drafted and presented to Qatzav.

[Azulay-Katz] And then?

[Levi] We were busy drafting the document and then we learned that Qatzav had already opened the convention. Such disregard is an act of treachery.

[Azulay-Katz] Qatzav said that you were the toughest nut during the consultation between the ministers.

[Levi] I do not have to respond to every outburst by those who have already lost their heads. Qatzav is suffering from hallucinations. I advise him to come down to earth, and then he will feel more normal.

[Azulay-Katz] He also said that he would never forgive you for the way you fought against him over the past year.

[Levi] I dissociate myself from his need to settle accounts. I have no argument with him; he is not my partner. I do not intend to comment.

[Azulay-Katz] Your friends claim that when the results of the vote came in, you wanted to resign and forgo the position.

[Levi] That is not exactly so. When I saw the results I understood that something had been done which was new to politics. The ministers did not contend against me. They sent Kohen-Avidov. I thought to myself that if that was their wish, I would leave Shamir with Kohen-Avidov as his deputy. But I eventually dropped the idea.

[Azulay-Katz] You wanted to be deputy and that is what you got. What are you angry about?

[Levi] That they said I suffered a defeat. I stood against a coalition of three and gained 57 percent of the votes. As far as I am concerned, that is an achievement. Despite the coalition formed against me, I say to the three ministers: Take what you received, divide it by three, and then we shall see who has won.

[Azulay-Katz] So you are pleased with your personal achievement?

[Levi] First of all, a convention was held and democratic procedures were maintained. For that I am thankful. It was not I who said that I have nightmares and sleepless nights, it was not I who said that the contest is a game of Russian roulette, and it was not I who said that democracy should be oppressed.

[Azulay-Katz] At the last convention you made a pact with Sharon. Now others have done so.

[Levi] They made a pact with Sharon. Good for them. I read in one of the newspapers that Sharon is getting organized to take over the movement. If Sharon and Arens are allowing such a situation to happen because of their desire to do away with David Levi, I will use all my power to halt this trend.

[Azulay-Katz] But you were Sharon's ally.

[Levi] I do not recognize the term ally. On the eve of the previous convention I saw that a few tricks had been pulled and I embarked upon a struggle. Sharon said to me: I am with you in this struggle. That is a far cry from what they actually did.

[Azulay-Katz] Do you feel cheated?

[Levi] I worked so that we would all choose Shamir unanimously, and that is how it should be. He acted differently. If he were to say that his friends acted alone in this, then he has no influence over them, or he did not want to influence them, and I will act accordingly. I was angry when ministers spoke nice words to me behind closed doors and then used tactics and strategies against me. Their strength will be measured on the day they have to contend against me, and that day is not too distant.

[Azulay-Katz] For the Knesset elections?

[Levi] Yes, definitely.

[Azulay-Katz] What motivates you to seek the position of prime minister?

[Levi] I have a dream. I do not hide it and I believe that it will come true: I want a united Israeli nation.

[Azulay-Katz] And do you think that you are nearing the realization of this dream?

[Levi] Deep inside me I feel that I am very near.

[Azulay-Katz] At the convention there was also a romantic bit: Shamir's embrace.

[Levi] When I worked for Shamir's unanimous election, he pushed everyone else aside to embrace me. I, of course, reciprocated. When the results came in and he thought that his friends had defeated me, he approached them and shook their hands warmly.

[Azulay-Katz] But he did not shake your hand, too?

[Levi] No, he did not even approach me.

[Azulay-Katz] After you embraced, you said that the friendship between you and Shamir was cruel. What did you mean?

[Levi] I saw what was happening and I thought to myself: How can Shamir work against me and still look me in the eye? Anyone who receives my support and then works against me is more than cruel.

[Azulay-Katz] In Herut it is said that the position of deputy is only symbolic.

[Levi] If that is so, why did they want it? Why did Sharon and Arens spend a year trying to ensure that I would not get it? I say to them: Do not rejoice, and do not think that only you have control. There is a power ration and the movement's institutions will be formed accordingly.

[Azulay-Katz] What content do you want to pour into the position?

[Levi] The content is first of all that I am No. 2, the first among the ministers, in accordance with the convention's decision, and all that this means. My stance will be decisive in anything connected with the movement's institutions. I will demand representation in the institutions in accordance with the percentage I received.

[Azulay-Katz] In the event of Shamir retiring, will you assume his position automatically and without contest?

[Levi] If we go to elections there will be a contest and everything will be open. Should Shamir decide to retire while this government still exists, it is only natural that his deputy would automatically step in. This is widely accepted. If the other ministers deny this, we will have to deal with this when the time comes.

[Azulay-Katz] Do you feel that the Herut leaders wish to keep you in the No. 2 slot forever?

[Levi] I know the intentions, and I am waiting for the day when all those who are poisoning the atmosphere contend against me. That will be the answer to all their gossip, the slanders behind my back, and the mudslinging. If these ministers were to invest 10 percent of the time they spend working against me in movement activities, everything would appear differently.

[Azulay-Katz] And what will happen in such a contest between you and the camp leaders?

[Levi] In a contest I would win the No. 1 position.

[Azulay-Katz] You once called Arens a "professor" as though it were a derogatory term. Do you hold a negative view of academic education?

[Levi] Absolutely not. I respect and admire the world of academe and education. I expect a man of education to act accordingly. When he uses words like "mafia" against us, he hurts academe first of all. Arens' tongue betrays him, and he has no restraints. Education is also manifested in restraint.

[Azulay-Katz] In the convention there was a lot of talk about unity. Do you feel a spirit of unity in your party?

[Levi] We acted with responsibility, and that is how I see unity. Their activities were the opposite of unity. With them, everything is apparently legitimate, but I expect them to treat me and my friends in the same way in the future: For them, everything is legitimate.

[Azulay-Katz] Your friends say that one of your intentions is to halt Sharon.

[Levi] I work in Herut and believe in its direction, and I will do everything to ensure that this direction is maintained and protected.

[Azulay-Katz] Those who wish you well expect the would-be prime minister to be surrounded by senior military officers and university people.

[Levi] I have various forums for consultation: scientists, academics, and military prople. I am familiar with all matters; I do my homework and study each issue thoroughly. What can I do against slanderers? People say about me: What is he, after all? He comes from a development town. Should I be ashamed of this? Others ask why I am so bombastic. Still others are bothered by my hairstyle. This seems to be trendy, and everybody wants to jump on the bandwagon: It is the "in" thing to attack David Levi.

LIBYA

Further Reportage on Tripoli Solidarity Conference

More Delegations Arrive

LD141001 Tripoli JANA in English 0915 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tayr 14, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Delegations to the international conference of solidarity with the people of Great Jamahiriyah continue to arrive in Tripoli.

Delegations of Zairean progresive forces, African workers organization in Paris, the movement of Peace and Progress in France, lawyers international association and the organization of the Comorus workers in France. [sentence as received]

Foreign Liaison Bureau Statement

LD141917 Tripoli JANA in English 1749 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tayr 14, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau issued today the following statement on the first anniversary of confrontation with U.S. aggression:

The 15 Al-Tayr — April — marks the passing of a year on the ugly crime committed by the U.S. Administration against the Libyan Arab people by launching a treacherous aggression carried out by the U.S. war machine in conspiracy with its NATO partners.

This criminal aggression resulted in the martyring of tens of old people, children and women, the destruction of residential neighborhoods, schools, hospitals, disabled homes and the civilian economic institutions in both Tripoli and Banghazi cities, apart from other areas of our sacred land.

The main aim of the failed U.S.-NATO barbarous aggression was the assassination of the leader of the great al-Fatih revolution. The aircraft aimed their bombs and rockets at his home and headquarters. What a crime rise to the level of such a crime? [sentence as received] A great state attack with its aircraft a peaceful home which its inhabitants were asleep?

Such aggression constitutes an abhorant practice of official state terrorism by a big state permanent member of the U.N. Security Council against a small peaceful country determined to use all means to defend its freedom and sovereignty. It is an episode in the series of the official state terrorism being practised by the U.S.A. against the struggling people in the Arab homeland, Africa, Latin America and Asia.

The U.S. media and political machines, despite its enormous material power, could not pass the misleading practiced by the U.S. Administration on to the world public opinion to justify its criminal aggression against the Libyan Arab people. A year has passed on such an aggression during which condemnations by the international community were continuous and through which truth emerged and exposed the schemes of the conspirators and led to the downfall of symbols of the U.S. Administration who were deeply involved and were culprits in the conspiracy. The Great al-Fateh Revolution continued to top the Arab and world liberation movement with all pride.

After committing its crime against the Libyan Arab people, the U.S. Administration with full bluntness, put out of action the function of the U.N. Security Council challenging the denounciation of the world public opinion of such aggression using its veto to prevent that council from conducting its functions. This is an abhorant example of the misuse of veto by the U.S.A. in the U.N. Security Council.

The stubbornness, misleading and pressures used by the U.S. Administration did not help it in preventing the international community from denouncing and condemning expressed by the world public opinion forcibly at the U.N. General Assembly in its 41st session of 1986, the Non-Aligned Movement in its 8th summit, the African summit in its 22nd session of 1986 and the 5th Islamic summit of 1987 considering it a flagrant violation of all international laws and conducts.

The Libyan Arab people will never forget the stances of denounciation and the marches of anger organised by world nations in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe and the U.S.A. itself.

And despite the political and military defeat the U.S.A. suffered on the hands of the Libyan Arab people, and despite the world-wide denounciation and condemnation of such aggression, the U.S.A. continues in its aggression against this peaceful people using all military, political, informational and economic means. What takes place now in Chad and on our southern borders is nothing but an extention and a continuation of that flagrant aggression against the Libyan Arab people. What had America failed to accomplish in the North it has imagined that it can succeed in the South. Now and after it had exposed, with the admission of officials in the U.S. Administration, the schemes of misinformation and lies plotted by this administration to commit its sinful aggression against the Libyan Arab people, we call upon those who followed and believed the U.S. misinformation campaigns against the Libyan Arab people to make this anniversary an opportunity for them to review the stance they had taken under pressures from the U.S. Administration.

And today, as the Libyan Arab people immortalises the memories of the martyrs of the sinful U.S. aggression, it greets the stances of peoples, states and international organisations which showed solidarity with it during the evil U.S. aggression. Today we very clearly establish that that sinful aggression had failed in accomplishing its mad aims and that the continuation of the terrorist mentality which runs the affairs of the U.S. pushes the Libyan Arab people and the nations of the whole world to be on maximum alert and determination to confront U.S. conspiracies and evil plots to harm the rights of nations in liberty and to control them, it also makes us more alert and more insistant to defend our freedom and sovereignty.

Salute to our reverent martyrs.

Long live the great al-Fatih revolution.

The revolutionary struggle continues.

Peace Committee Statement

LD142201 Tripoli JANA in English 1740 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tayr 14, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The Libyan Arab Committee for Solidarity and Peace issued a statement on the commemoration of the Libyan Arab people of the first anniversary of confronting the failed U.S.-NATO barbarous aggression. In its statement, the committee asserted that the aim of that aggression was to assassinate the leaders of the revolution and his family — an act incriminated by all international laws including the U.S. law itself. It pointed out that the U.S. Administration has plotted a scheme to mislead the U.S. and world public opinion before and after committing its aggression against the Libyan Arab people who inflicted an historic defeat with the support of the international community by its confrontation of the aggression and its right to defend its land, liberty and choice in life.

The statement went on: "The continuation of the crazy U.S. mentality in running the U.S. affairs in accordance with the policy of aggression and conspiracies urges the world forces of solidarity and peace to be more alert and more determined to defend their liberty. [no closing quotation mark as received]

Concluding its statement, the committee greeted all the world forces of solidarity and peace which stood an historic brave stance by the side of the Libyan Arab people and leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi against the terrorist policy persued by the U.S. Administration.

14 Apr Conference Proceedings

LD142020 Tripoli JANA in English 1830 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tayr 14, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — This morning in the People's Hall in Tripoli the International Conference for Solidarity with the People of Great Jamahiriyah began on the first anniversary of the Libyan Arab people's confrontation with the participation of many delegations from popular organisations and unions apart from liberation movements from around the world, which came to Great Jamahiriyah to express solidarity with and standing by the Libyan Arab people, and its leader in its brave confrontation with all conspiracies and schemes aimed at its choices in freedom and progress and the pioneering liberation role in supporting nations' causes and bitter struggle for freedom and against imperialist domination and control, to commemorate the first anniversary of the repulsion of that aggression. [sentence as received]

The conference has began with an address from the chairman of the International Secretariat for Solidarity with the Arab People and Its Central Cause — Palestine. He started his speech with greeting the participating delegations. He said: "The meeting of such popular delegations from various continents of the world has its significance and importance for their solidarity and support for the struggle the Libyan Arab people and the leader of its revolution — which hoist the banner of Arab nationalist struggle to liberate Palestine, establish Arab unity and make progress in this strategic important region on the world's map". He confirmed that this conference will be able to highlight some facts, to monitor signal [as received] and to agree on steps that will make this meeting of an historic significance to serve peace, justice, progress and prevent war and aggression.

He asserted that this conference of solidarity expresses the support of world nations to the people of Great Jamahiriyah and condemns aggression.

"Thus its activities must be crowned by an act of solidarity through proposals presented by various delegations." Mr. Sukharev the head of the Soviet delegation started his speech by greeting the heroic Libyan Arab people's confrontation of the failed U.S.-NATO barbarous aggression and conveyed the greetings of the Soviet people and leadership and their full solidarity with the people of Great Jamahiriyah.

He attacked the barbarous acts of piracy by the U.S. in alliance with its NATO and reactionist allies which breeched all international laws and charters. He confirmed that the U.S. aggression had failed in achieving any results.

"Aasim Quinsowa" [name as received] spoke on behalf of the national Lebanese parties and forces and started by greeting the Libyan Arab people and congratulating it on the great victory it scored over U.S. imperialism. He asserted that the U.S. Administration and its head have lost their credibility since the Libyan Arab people had confronted their barbarous aggression and foiled it.

The head of the Congolese delegation Mr. "Boling" [name as received] spoke praising the heroic Libyan Arab people in its confrontation with U.S. barbarous aggression which was in contradiction with all international laws and contribute in returning to the law of the jungle. He pointed out to the standing of the Congolese people by the side of the people of Great Jamahiriyah and the demonstrations of protest against that U.S. aggression.

The head of the Institute of Peace and Development in France greeted the heroic confrontation by the Libyan Arab people to the barbarous U.S. aggression. He pointed out that the peace institution works towards establishing peace in the Mediterranean Sea and consolidate co-operation between the states of the region.

The secretary-general of the anti-colonial bases organisation in Greece strongly condemned, in his speech, the U.S. imperialism's terrorist practices and its open aggression against the Libyan Arab people. He asserted that the people of Greece strongly oppose the presence of U.S bases on their territories. He indicated that the Greek people took to the streets to denounce U.S. aggression against the people of Great Jamahiriyah. He also talked about the current dispute between Greece and Turkey and said that it was originally created by U.S. imperialism and is responsible for the tension between both states.

Mr. "Tony Green" the secretary-general of the British solidarity organisation to defend liberation movements denounced the blind policy of the prime minister of the U.S. aircraft carrier and her

suspicious alliance with Reagan and her participation in the barbarous assault on the Libyan Arab people.

He asserted that the British people strongly rejects such policy and showed its opposition to such policy by the demonstrations it staged in protest of the aggression. He confirmed that Reagan is hostile and hates the Libyan Arab people because, thanks to its great revolution, had ended the U.S. presence over its land and had extended aid to the nations that struggle for their final salvation from colonialism.

Taysir Qubaah delivered a speech on behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organisation asserting the standing of the Palestine revolution by the side of the Libyan Arab people in its struggle against imperialist aggressive plots.

In his speech he indicated that all imperialist plots against Great Jamahiriyah had failed thanks to the confrontation and steadfastness of the brave Libyan Arab people. He said that the real reason behind the imperialist aggression is the standing of the great Al-Fatih revolution in support of all peoples that struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

Taysir Qubaah said that real terrorism is that practiced by the U.S. Administration and its NATO allies headed by the government of child murderer and the Zionist terrorists against the Palestine people and against the Arab nation.

Concluding his address, he spoke about the conspiracies of liquidation of the Palestine issue. He stressed the need for the continuation of armed struggle and adherence to the right of return, self-determination and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state, praising the pioneering role of the great al-Fatih revolution to reunite the Palestinian factions.

March Held in Tripoli

LD150916 Tripoli JANA in English 0820 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tayr 15, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — A massive march took place last night in Tripoli at the even of the first anniversary of the aborted American Atlantic barbaric aggression against the people of Great Jamahiryah.

Taking part in this march were over 200 peace organizations from the world over including America, Britain, Ireland and Canada.

The demonstrators carried the pictures of the leader of the revolution and slogans condemning the American aggression and reaffirming support for and solidarity with the Libyan Arab people.

The march which started from the Hall of Producers in Tripoli crossing the street of Martyr Omar al Mokhtar to the Green Place reasserted the support of the peace organizations with the Libyan Arab people in countering all American and imperialist plots.

The participants in the march called for the establishment of peace the world over on the basis of justice and equality.

The demonstrators chanted slogans condemning imperialist schemes and direct military interventions in the affairs of progressive peoples including the Libyan Arab people [against] whom American aggression was directed last year.

Al-Qadhdhafi Salutes' Marchers

LD150926 Tripoli JANA in English 0824 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tayr 15, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The leader of the great al-Fatih revolution saluted the delegations of peace organizations and movements from the world over who held a peace march last night in Tripoli on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Libyan [words indistinct].

The delegations shouted at one voice 'Long live the leader of the revolution' and reaffirmed their support for and solidarity with [words indistinct] Arab people.

The world peace movements and organizations lauded the struggle of the Libyan Arab people and its revolution and their stand (?toward peace), freedom and support for peoples aspiring for their freedom and independence.

Al-Qadhdhafi's Son Speaks

LD151040 Tripoli JANA in English 0920 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tayr 15, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Peace organizations and movements from the world over last night commemorated in Tripoli the first anniversary of the victory of the Libyan Arab people over American aggression.

The delegations held a massive speeches rally at the house of the leader of the revolution which was subjected to aggression in solidarity with the Libyan Arab people in its resistance against American imperialist aggression and plots and in expression of opposition to the policies and terrorism by the Reagan administration against innocents and progressive countries and peoples seeking their freedom and independence.

The masses of pupils of schools and colleges, students of military camps, masses of the People's Congress [word indistinct] Committees in the municipality of Tripoli headed for the house of the leader of the revolution shouting long live the revolution and condemnation of the American Administration and its hostile policies and provocations.

Also the family of the leader of the revolution took part in this rally alongside the peace delegations.

The assistant secretary of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture and Revolutionary Orientation Fawziyhaw Shalabi made the opening speech to the rally in which she highlighted the acts of terrorism and acts committed by the American Administration against the people of great Jamahiriyah and its revolutionary leadership.

She reaffirmed the determination of the people of Great Jamahiriyah to continue the struggle and resistance against the American imperialism so as to achieve national aspirations.

One of the children of the leader of the revolution addressed the rally in which he pointed to the terrorist acts committed by the American Administration against mankind and that the American raids are case in point.

He reiterated the challenge against the American Administration saying that we will defeat and repulse American aggression if it took place once again...if defending our country is terrorism then we accept this terrorism.

He asserted that America and its failing President used fleets and warplanes to kill children who are innocent of whatever is taking place abroad.

He condemned Britain for allowing the American warplanes to launch aggression against the modest tent of the leader and his family.

The son of the leader said if bombs could damage houses and material things they can never destroy the will of the Libyan Arab people.

Al-Qadhdhafi's Children Cited

LD151046 Tripoli JANA in English 0845 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tayr 15, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The children of the leader of the revolution spoke last night about the horrors of the aborted American aggression which they experienced last year.

The children Aisha and Hanibal described how they found themselves thrown against each other as a result of the raids and the bombs dropped and how they jumped to cuddle their other brothers and sisters Al Mouatassam Billah, Khamis and Saif al Uruba [all names as received].

They described how their father, the leader, rushed for their rescue while their mother was very tired and could not move.

The children said that before the aggression, they revised their lessons and did their home work then went to their bedrooms to sleep. Suddenly they were awaken by the sound of American warplanes and terrible sound of bombs.

They could not believe as children that they would be subjected to such a cowardly act by the American Administration.

Parade Held in Banghazi

[Editorial Report] Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic from 0845 to1014 GMT on 15 April carries a live relay of a rally and military parade in Banghazi.

Unidentified announcers take turns giving a running commentary as students and armed units pass in review. They extol the determination of the Libyan people in the face of "Zionism" and "U.S. imperialism" on this 1st anniversary of the U.S. air raid on Libya. Shouts and slogans can be heard in the background.

Among the many exhortations to further the struggle against the United States and Zionism, one announcer states: "Masses of our Arab nation, destroy American embassies and American bases; revolt against the agent and backsliding regimes, revolt against the submissive rulers, revolt against the agents of Zionism, revolt against the agents of America throughout the Arab homeland."

He goes on to say: "Slaughter Israelis everywhere, slaughter the criminals everywhere. Destroy the American bases; slaughter the Zionists everywhere in the Arab homeland. It is a shame for Zionist flags to be raised in the Arab homeland. It is a shame that American flags fly in Arab states. Burn the flags; slaughter Americans everywhere."

The relay ends abruptly at 1014 GMT without mention of any speeches or the presence of specific leaders.

Al-Qadhdhafi Comments on Chad, Relations With West

LD150355 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 15 Apr JANA — The American *The New York Times* and the British *Sunday Times* have interviewed Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great Al-Fatih revolution, who dealt with several important Arab and international issues. Here is the text of the interview:

At the beginning of the interview, Col Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi pointed out that *The New York Times* had written several bad articles about the Jamahiriyah, and he said, addressing the lady representing the paper, "at any rate, these are American and Atlantic morals."

The brother answered a remark by the translator to the effect that the two (lady) journalists wished to ask you several questions by saying: "There is no point in those questions or their answers, as you want to paint a certain picture to deceive your people. All the Western media want to draw a bad picture of me, the Arab nation, the Palestinian cause, our struggle, and our independence, as the West wants to colonize our region and deny us our right to live freely. All these Western governments want to deceive their peoples and make them believe that the Israelis are right and the Palestinians are wrong, as those Western governments are our historic enemy. All these efforts by your information media want to prove this in order to mislead public opinion in the West." [passage omitted]

Journalist: We want to hear what you have to say, write it as it is, and highlight them.

The leader: I do not think so.

Journalist: Here we are a year later and Reagan says that they have defeated you. What do you want to say a year after the aggression?

The leader: I would say they did not defeat me and they failed. Rather, I say to them you must search for another way of reaching an understanding with us. I mean they tried assassination and failed; they tried conspiracies and failed; then they carried out a direct attack with the most advanced military hardware and failed; they tried to impose an economic seige and failed. They should find another means of achieving understanding with us other than direct confrontation, which they have tried. They should be certain that those means are futile.

Journalist: What do you propose?

The leader: They should remain within their borders and we within ours. We have no problem with them. We are here inside our borders; if they come to us we shall liquidate them. What we want is for them to stay within their borders.

Journalist: You have many problems with the Reagan administration and Reagan has 2 more years in office. Do you believe that a government change with the Democrats in power can change the situation?

The leader: I expect relations to improve after Reagan; I do not think that another infidel will follow Reagan's policy, whether Democrat or Republican, because it is very shameful, and I do not believe that anyone would expect the insult Reagan's policy brought him. They wiped the floor with him and his reputation now is not that of a head of state; he has become like a rabid dog. Who could reconcile himself to such a fate? Consequently, I do not think that any president will follow Reagan's policy. The reputation of America is now bad, America is now hated by all the peoples of the world, and as a result of this policy, America has come out the loser, and so has Reagan.

Journalist: The Reagan administration said that you lost in Chad. Is this correct, and if yes, how large a loss was it?

The leader: The conflict is still continuing between the Chadian revolution and the enemies of the Chadian people, and so does the confrontation between the Chadian people and the French occupation forces. We support this people and support this revolution, and we are certain it will triumph.

Journalist: Did you support this revolution?

The leader: Yes, we supported the Chadian people against the French and American occupation.

Journalist: How many Libyans are in Chad supporting the revolution?

The leader: The question is not one of figures, but of a stance.

Journalist: Many of the Western and Arab media have said that there are big battles in Chad between the Libyan forces and the Chadians. Can you talk about this?

The leader: These battles are between the forces of the national Chadian government and Habre's forces, which are supported by the French, American, Zairian, and Moroccan forces and we naturallyback the forces of the Chadian national government. The struggle continues.

Journalist: What do you say to those who claim to have photographs of Libyan equipment?

The leader: I told you, the issue is not one of equipment. We are supporting the legitimate government and we support the Chadian revolution against the French and American occupation. You must know there are thousands of Libyans who have lived in Chad for many years who they can round up. There are a quarter of a million Libyans living in Chad.

Journalist: You said there are thousands of Libyans living there.

The leader: Living in Chad for a long time, perhaps hundreds of years.

Journalist: I read in a book published recently that there are a great many refugees in Chad who are from your tribe, Al-Qadhdhafi. Is this true?

The leader: The truth is half of my tribe has lived in Chad for a long time. However, it is not only my tribe or my family; there are a lot of Libyans who have lived in Chad for more than 100 years.

Journalist: What are the locations of Habre's forces and the opposing troops?

The leader: The region is vast...it is not a constant war, the battles are fluid — sometimes here and sometimes there.

Journalist: Where is Ouadi Doum?

The leader: It is an auxiliary, metal runway; it is not a cement runway. It is only temporary, a metal and an artificial runway.

Journalist: In whose hands is it now?

The leader: As I already said, they are not battles for fixed positions which 1 week are in one party's hands and the next week in someone else's. This runway is not important, it is only for small aircraft; I think hundreds of Habre's troops were killed there as well some French and black Americans.

Journalist: What about Faya-Largeau?

The leader: We do not know anything about it. Since 1983 we have had nothing in Faya-Largeau. It used to be in the hands of Goukouni's troops; we are not sure at present.

Journalist: Do you still maintain any relations with Goukouni?

The leader: He has not returned to Libya.

Journalist: Would you meet with him.

The leader: Yes.

Journalist: Is he in Algeria?

The leader: Yes.

Journalist: What about the Aozou Strip; to whom does it belong?

The leader: It is Libyan Arab territory.

Journalist: Let us move to another subject. Has your position shifted from support of Iran to support of Iraq?

The leader: We have not changed our alliance; we are the natural allies of the Iranian revolution. However, we and the Iraqis are the sons of the same nation and the same people.

Journalist: Are trying to mediate between the two countries.

The leader: Yes, I am trying to mediate between them.

Journalist: Do you want to see an end to the war?

The leader: Yes. America, France, and Israel are, however, working against the end of this war.

Journalist: Have you sent any message to Saddam Husayn offering to mediate?

The leader: There are no direct contacts; I have, however, stated my position in many speeches. I mean not through direct contacts with Iraqis or Iranians, still we will do our best. We are, however, certain that the Americans and the French will sabotage these efforts; they will first set in motion their hirelings in Egypt and Morocco so as to hinder Libya's mediating role.

Journalist: In your recent speech you launched an initiative to change Libya's internal policies. Could you explain how this change would take place?

The leader: There is no change.

Journalist: What about private shops?

The leader: Yes, in a limited way, so distribution will cover all regions.

Journalist: Is there a problem with distribution?

The leader: Yes, public markets are limited and cannot cover all regions. Distribution only...markets are beneficial to the people...there is no profit making in the market, no exploitation, and they are owned by the people; however, they have failed to cover all regions.

Journalist: There is a story which says that food lines have prompted you to change?

The leader: Lines mean lack of distribution.

Journalist: Will you buy more cars?

The leader: Yes, to meet our needs, but not from France.

Journalist: Will Peugeot sell cars?

The leader: No.

Journlaist: Do you think that farms in Libya have achieved their purpose?

The leader: We need more farmers.

Journalist: The Russian envoy was here. In reference to your comment 2 weeks ago to the effect that you might join the Warsaw Pact: Is this true? Is there a link between his arrival and this point?

The leader: There is no need to talk about it now; it is another matter.

Journalist: What did Gorbachev say? He sent you a letter?

The leader: There is no need to talk about it now.

Journalist: You said you will give more aid to the Irish revolutionaries. Why?

The leader: Because Britain has declared war on us and provided facilities to the United States in its aggression against us.

Journalist: Why should there not be another way of reaching an understanding on this issue instead of this policy?

The leader: Thatcher sent us bombs while we sent her the British detainees out of respect for the church; we returned them. In exchange, she sent us American aircraft and bombs over our homes.

Journalist: British intelligence says you will send further assistance to the Irish revolutionaries. What sort of aid?

The leader: All types of support.

Journalist: I heard that Terry Waite is in Beirut. What is his situation?

The leader: He has offended the church, because the Libyan people released the British prisoners without a trial in return for him doing something for the Libyan students who were thrown out by the British Government without committing a crime. In Lebanon they say that he was carrying listening devices on his person, something which indicates he belonged to some intelligence service.

TUNISIA

Bourgiba Announces New Politburo Members

LD141810 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Excerpt] President Habib Bourguiba held a working session this morning at the Republican Palace in Carthage with Prime Minister Rachid Sfar, Mansour Shkiri, minister and director of

the Presidential Office, and Interior Minister Zine el Abedine Ben Ali.

Mr Rachid Sfar made the following statement: The Supreme Combatant His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba has appointed Abdelaziz Ben Dhia director of the party and minister attached to the prime minister. Hedi Baccouche has been named minister of social affairs. The head of state and chairman of the Socialist Destourian Party also appointed Mahmoud Messadi, Abdelaziz Bouraoui, Taoufik Saied, and Mrs Fatima Douik members of the party Politburo. They will succeed Beji Caid Essebsi, Mohamed Kraiem, Bechir Khantouch, and Ismail Lejri. [passage omitted]

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Releases Statement on Sudanese Peace Talks

EA132328 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] In a press statement at the conclusion of his visit to Egypt, our comrade revolutionary leader said that revolutionary Ethiopia would [words indistinct] so that the peace talks that have been initiated between the Government of Sudan and the Sudanese People's Liberation Front will continue [words indistinct].

Comrade Mengistu said many Sudanese citizens have fled to Ethiopia due to the civil war in their country, and the refugees have been given temporary shelter out of consideration for human rights and the good relations between the two states.

Concluding his statement, the comrade secretary general reiterated that revolutionary Ethiopia was ready to give the necessary assistance for the success of efforts being made to settle the differences between the Sudanese Government and other parties.

Mengistu Meets Dos Santos on Stopover From DPRK

EA091101 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 8 Apr 87

[Text] Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos arrived in Addis Ababa this evening for a stopover on his way home from Pyongyang, in the DPRK. President dos Santos was welcomed on arrival at Bole International Airport by Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Museveni Stops Over in Addis Ababa En Route to DPRK

EA132236 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] The Ugandan leader, His Excellency President Yoweri Museveni, has made a short stopover in Addis Ababa en route to the DPRK. Comrade Fiseha Desta, Politburo member and secretary of the WPE Central Committee, welcomed President Museveni at Bole International Airport, and saw him off after a round of talks. Also present were members and alternate members of the WPE Central Committee Politburo, WPE Central Committee members, ministers, OAU Secretary General Mr Ide Oumarou, and members of the Ugandan Embassy staff.

KENYA

Libyan 'Spy' Receives 15-Month Sentence

EA141111 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 14 Apr 87 p 1

[Report by Odhiambo-Orlale: "Another Spy for Libya Jailed"]

[Excerpts] An expelled Kenyatta University student was yesterday sentenced to 15 months jail for spying for Libya. Peter Nyangau Momanyi changed his plea when he appeared before the chief magistrate, having denied the charges last week. [passage omitted]

Between May and November last year, Momanyi passed information concerning the leadership of Nairobi and Kenyatta University student leaders to the Libyan charge d'affaires, Mr Wanis Musallati.

The accused, who was thrown out of college last year after student disturbances, told the magistrate: "I don't dispute the facts of the case as they are. I only dispute the function I am said to have played in the whole affair."

Momanyi said the Libyan diplomat had taken advantage of him when he visited the embassy in search of a scholarship. "I went to the embassy in plain search of a scholarship and in good faith — I had no shady motives whatsoever. He promised to help me get the scholarship, but meanwhile, tuned me into discussing political matters which could have had negative effects on Kenyans," said the accused. [passage omitted] "I was misled and I misjudged my actions, without foreseeing the repercussions." [passage omitted]

The assistant deputy public prosecutor, Mr Bernard Chunga, told the court that Momanyi was arrested on February 26, and his involvement in the spying deal "was purely on common intention as his personal participation in it was to a very low degree." [passage omitted]

Last Monday, another former Kenyatta student, Richard Nixon Wekesa, was jailed for 10 years by a Nairobi court for also briefing Libyan Embassy officials on student leadership at Kenyatta and Nairobi Universities. [passage omitted]

Correction to Protest Over Libyan Diplomat

The following corrections pertain to the item headlined "Libyan Diplomat's Espionage Activities Protested," published in the Kenya section of the 14 April Middle East and Africa *Daily Report*, page R 1.

Paragraph one, line one:

...[Excerpts] Kenya have sent...(correcting processing indicator)

From the last line of paragraph two through the first line of paragraph three:

...*Nation* at Kajiado. [passage omitted]

He said the...(correcting punctuation and supplying editorial notation)

Last paragraph, last line:

...Mr Kiplagat said. [passage omitted]..(correcting punctuation and supplying editorial notation)

CHAD

Goukouni's Terms for Reconciliation 'Unacceptable'

AB141111 Paris AFP in French 1019 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Paris, 14 Apr (AFP) — Informed Chadian sources in Paris said today that by posing "exorbitant conditions" that are "out of proportion with his representativeness" before his reconciliation with the Chadian Government, Goukouni Oueddei "gives the impression of playing the Libyan game."

While discussions should, in principle, resume soon in Algiers between Ndjamena and the former GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] leader, who is currently in Abidjan, the same sources have described his various demands as "unacceptable."

According to these sources, Goukouni Oueddei is not only putting up protocol demands, but is also raising basic problems for Ndjamena: the renunciation of the Fundamental Act (provisional Constitution of 29 September 1982) and the dissolution of the National Union for Independence and Revolution (UNIR, sole party), and the FANT [Chadian National Armed Forces].

Informed sources in Paris added that although the Ndjamena authorities are prepared to give him a welcome worthy of his rank and status in Chad, they cannot accept "the legal void and the destabilization of the institutions" which his demands would produce.

"Contrary to what people are saying, Goukouni Oueddei has not broken completely with the Libyans," it was stated. "He is in permanent contact with them, and they have not given up on using him against Chad. Therefore, he should stop kidding himself about his representativeness," informed Chadian sources added. "What he is asking for by his demands is a return to the past, to the factions that are a source of tension," the source explained. "There is a commission in Chad charged with drafting the future constitution. Goukouni Oueddei can get in touch with the commission to ask for the changes he wants."

"One wonders, therefore, if Goukouni is not part of Libya's strategy, one of its variant forms," the source asked, denouncing, at the same time, the bombing of civilians and the "high concentration of Libyans in the Tibesti area (northwestern Chad)." "The Libyans are preparing for their revenge," the source added, "and we are ready to meet them. Insofar as they persist in their refusal to negotiate a settlement of the conflict, the Chadian forces will continue their offensive for the liberation of the country."

Libyan Opposition Leader Gives News Conference

AB142105 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] The National Front for the Salvation of Libya, FNSL, one of the major and most active opposition movements to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's regime, was created on 17 October 1981. It has many supporters outside and especially inside Libya, notably within student circles and in Army. It has to its credit a series of actions against the Libyan regime, the most spectacular of which was the attack on Col al-Qadhdhafi's residence. The FNSL also has newspapers and radio stations that broadcast to Libya. While passing through Ndjamena, the secretary general of the front, (Dr Muhammad Madrissi), gave a news conference this morning in the gardens of the [name indistinct] Hotel. His conference was devoted entirely to the Chadian conflict. In his introductory remarks, he first of all thanked President Hissein Habre and the Chadian people for the reception accorded him and for the lesson given to Al-Qadhdhafi. In this regard, he stressed that the elimination of Al-Qadhdhafi is a duty not only for Libyans, but for all peace-loving countries that want prosperity for Africa.

Speaking of the cost of this war to Libya, (Dr Madrissi) stated that the war takes $1 million a day from the Libyan treasury, and materiel losses, especially during the latest fighting, amounted to $1 billion. Are the Libyan people, the brotherly people of Chad and the African Continent, not in need of these millions, the Libyan opposition leader asked. He also said he was sure there would never be an end to this war without an end to the Al-Qadhdhafi regime. He added that officers and men of our Armed Forces, now prisoners of war in Chad because of Al-Qadhdhafi's stupidity, will soon constitute the nucleus of an army to save our country from the hands of Al-Qadhdhafi and his criminal hirelings.

Asked about the Aozou Strip, the FNSL secretary general said that if there is any problem at all, it stems from the foolhardiness and aggressiveness of Al-Qadhdhafi.

Sharing the opinion of his compatriot, (Batevani Baku), another illustrous Libyan opposition figure, (Dr Madrissi) dispelled any ambiguities on the Chadian nature of the Aozou strip. Let us listen to him:

[Begin recording in Arabic with passage-by-passage translation into French] [Words indistinct] the Aozou Strip dispute should not be a dispute between Chadians and Libyans because there are historical, social, and fraternal bonds of common interest between Chadian and Libyans. We must view this issue in its true perspective. We should not follow Al-Qadhdhafi's mad train of thought. We should first of all think about our solid, historical, and secular relations [words indistinct]. We have always thought that before the arrival of Al-Qadhdhafi on the political scene, the Libyan people and their Chadian brothers were living peacefully. But then Al-Qadhdhafi ursurped power to create a dispute between us. Al-Qadhdhafi is a sick man who works for foreign interests. We, as Libyans and Chadians, should cultivate the historical bonds between us [words indistinct]. We are only a country of 3 million people, we are a peaceful people, and we (?are peaceful) toward the Chadian people. You can ask any Libyan whether he thinks there is any problem between him and the Chadians. He will say no. This entire war is the creation of Al-Qadhdhafi alone [passage indistinct]. [end recording]

Health Status of Military Figures Reported

AB141536 Paris AFP in French 1323 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Paris, 14 Apr (AFP) — The head of the Chadian presidential guard, Ahmed Gouro, who was undergoing

treatment in Val-de-Grace Hospital in Paris for injuries sustained during the takeover of the Libyan base of Ouadi Doum (in northern Chad) on 22 March 1987, left Paris today for Ndjamena, according to reliable sources.

Meanwhile, the commander in chief of the Chadian National Armed Forces, the "Com-Chief" Hassan Djamous, who received a head wound during the same battle and is undergoing treatment at the Val-de-Grace Hospital, told AFP today that "he had completely recovered and was feeling in top shape." The "com-chief," who has been discharged from the hospital, is expected to return to Ndjamena in the next few days.

Faya-Largeau Said To Face 'Painful Problems'

AB141407 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
0530 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] The chief town of Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti [BET], Faya-Largeau, which is now free, still shows traces of the Libyan occupation. Radio Chad's special correspondent observed this in the company of a group of journalists. Faya-Largeau is today confronting a series of problems. The most urgent ones are in education, health care, and currency. This means that the task is very difficult for the ministries [words indistinct].

Everything must be done over or rebuilt in Faya-Largeau — this town whose growth has suddenly been halted. The government will therefore have to face a series of painful problems in view of the gravity of the damage caused by the colonialists from Tripoli. All the social infrastructure must be repaired, beginning with schools. Since 1983, school-age children have been left to their own devices, resulting in a considerable decrease in the level of education. Currently, there is an elementary school which, it seems, can accommodate about 50 pupils. But Faya has only two elementary school teachers and one secondary school teacher who split their time between teaching and farming. The secondary school has been transformed into a military garrison. To rehabilitate its entire infrastructure would be similar to the task of the Danaides — those sisters who, in Greek mythology, killed their husbands and were forced to fill a bottomless tub.

One cannot even talk of a (?drugstore) in the BET capital. I cannot remember seeing a single tablet of aspirin or nivaquine. The building that once proudly called itself a hospital no longer resembles one. The shelves are empty and dusty. The Libyans were following the policy of apartheid, as they had their own hospital which compared favorably with the most sophisticated ones in the world. The entire administration must be re-established. Because of the Libyan colonization, we no longer have archives in Faya-Largeau. I saw hundreds and hundeds of documents lying on the ground. Some of them dated from the time of the French governor, (Ramadie).

The most delicate problem, which could assume serious proportions if nothing concrete is done to solve it, is that of currency. Whether you like it or not, the people of Faya-Largeau are accustomed to using Libyan dinars. What can be done to force them to abandon this colonial currency? It is important to inject into all trading activities a great many CFA francs and embark on a demonetarization of the entire region. It is a truly weighty task for the government treasurer, that is, the minister of finance and computerization.

The Ministry of Tourism and Environment must take an interest in the rehabilitation of Faya-Largeau, as this chief town of the BET region, one of the largest oases in the world, is a (?tourist) attraction, whose charm no tourist can resist. If well exploited, the region can be an important source of revenue.

One story: Didier Francois of *Matin de Paris*, after each swim in one of the town's many swimming pools, could not help exclaiming: It is great! When I asked him if he could invest here one day, he answered: If I had the means, I would do so; but unfortunately, my salary does not allow me to do so.

After the liberation, more than ever before, much time must be devoted to the reconstruction of Faya-Largeau.

ZAIRE

Oil Production Falls But Boom Said Possible

AB141420 Kinshasa AZAP in French
1605 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 13 Apr (AZAP) — According to reports from reliable sources, Zairian crude oil production was about 11.68 million barrels in 1986 as against 12.22 million barrels in 1985, a drop of 4.47 percent. The same sources indicated that this drop in production was the result of the fall in world market crude oil prices in 1986 which last year forced the Zaire-Petroleum [Zairep] and the Zaire Gulf Oil companies exploiting the local crude oil to stop drilling new wells. Sources close to these two oil companies stated that the Zaire Gulf Oil company production fell from 8.4 million barrels in 1985 to 7.9 million barrels in 1986, while Zairep's onshore production rose slightly from 3.4 million barrels in 1985 to 3.8 million barrels in 1986.

According to experts, with the fresh interest shown by certain multinational oil firms in prospecting for petroleum deposits in the central basin and the Great Lakes area, there may be a boom very soon in the national production of crude oil, which is currently limited to the Muanda coastal area (in territorial waters and on land). Official sources said that in 1985, Petrozaire began exploring the central basin with the technical aid of a Swiss firm, in collaboration with Japan National Oil Company.

With regard to the Great Lakes area, a joint venture agreement was signed in 1986 between Petrozaire and the American Amoco company for oil prospecting in Lake Tanganyika and the Ruzizi plains. For their part, Esso, Petrofina, and Shell are still negotiating with the Executive Council for oil exploration in the region between Lake Mobutu and the former Lake Idi Amin.

BENIN

Soviet Trade Union Group Arrives in Cotonou

AB142215 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] A delegation from the trade unions of state institutions of the Soviet Union arrived in Cotonou this afternoon at the invitation of the (?Fesyntractab) [expansion unknown]. Listen to the leader of the delegation, Comrade (Petrov Disiemkov), answering questions from our reporter Gerard Amegah to whom he, first of all, disclosed the purpose of his visit.

[Begin recording in Russian fading into French translation] We have arrived at the invitation of our sister trade union called (?Fesyntractab), and this visit is part of the development of the relations that have existed between our two organizations since 1979. We have already received delegations of the (?Fesyntractab), and this is the second time (?we have come to Benin). The first delegation was here in 1982.

We are currently in the People's Republic of Benin to share with our Beninese counterparts the experiences that we have acquired in the trade union sector, primarily in the training of trade union cadres and militants. We are prepared to brief our Beninese friends on how cadres and militants are trained in our country. Of course, we will also have to learn many things concerning trade union activities in Benin and the progress made so far in the training of trade union cadres and militants. We are very pleased to note that exchanges between our two sister unions have been increasing steadily.

We think that great momentum was given to our relations by the visit last year by President Mathieu Kerekou to the Soviet Union and this will help increase our exchanges. In the Soviet Union, we still remember this trip and greatly appreciate its results. [end recording]

BURKINA FASO

Libyan Solidarity Actions Planned for 15 Apr

AB142115 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Tomorrow will be the first anniversary of the U.S. attack on Libya. This anniversary is being marked in Libya by festivities which began at the Tripoli stadium yesterday. A warning was made in Tripoli on the occasion saying that the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah will firmly answer any aggression or threat of aggression from anywhere. On this occasion, a press communique was issued today from the Kadiogo High Commission:

On 15 April 1986, U.S. aircraft bombed both Tripoli and Banghazi bringing tragedy to the peaceful civilian population of the two cities. At the time, the Burkinabe people loudly condemned the aggression and assured the brotherly Libyan country of its solidarity. Tomorrow, 15 April, on the anniversary of this barbaric attack, the Burkinabe people would like to reaffirm its unflinching solidarity with the Libyan people. Various activities will be organized to mark the occasion. At 0900 tomorrow morning, a solidarity march will be staged by schools [words indistinct] and will take them to the Libyan cultural center. From 1700 tomorrow up to 17 April, a photo exhibition will be organized at the Libyan cultural center.

The comrade high commissioner of Kadiogo invites all local authorities of the Ouagadougou district organizations, Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, the Pioneers organization, Elders National Union of Burkina Faso, the socio-professional organizations, religious communities, and the (?the Workers' Union of Burkina Faso) of the Ouagadougou District to attend these activities. They will thus show our friendship and militant solidarity with the brotherly Libyan people on the one hand and our strong determination to fight imperialism on the other.

GAMBIA

President Jawara Visits PRC, Meets Leaders

For PRC media coverage of the visit of President Dawda Kairaba Jawara to the People's Republic of China, see the Middle East and Africa section of the 15 April China *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

GHANA

Government Delegation Leaves for USSR, Afghanistan

AB141424 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] A 3-member government delegation left Accra today to begin a tour of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. It is led by Ms Doris Ocansey, executive secretary at the CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution] National Secretariat. She told newsmen that the visits are at the invitation of the two governments. In the Soviet Union, the delegation will hold talks with members of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

According to Ms Ocansey, there is a protocol agreement between the CDR's and the committee. She added that the delegation will also study the organizational structure of the Soviet CDR's and how they are operated from the grassroots level. In Afghanistan, the delegation will participate in the anniversary celebration of the Afghan revolution which falls on the 27th of this month. Ms Ocansey said the visit will enable the delegation to study at first hand the real political situation there. The members will discuss with the Afghan authorities how the two revolutionary organs can cooperate to advance their revolutions.

The other members of the team are Mr Julius Lamptey, subregional coordinating assistant of the Tema CDR Secretariat and Mr Kwaku Sessa-Johnson of the Ministry of Information.

IVORY COAST

Houphouet-Boigny Greets Chadian Head of State

AB142123 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Head of State President Houphouet-Boigny sent a congratulatory message today to the Chadian head of state on the occasion of Chad's national day. In the message President Houphouet-Boigny wrote:

It is with great pleasure that on the occasion of your country's national day, I express to you on behalf of the Ivorian people, my government, and on my own behalf, hearty and warm congratulations. We also express sincere hopes for peace, harmony, and happiness to Your Excellency and to the brotherly Chadian people and wishes for the constant progress of the Republic of Chad.

Yours sincerely in the name of brotherhood,

[Signed] Felix Houphouet-Boigny, president of the Republic of Ivory Coast.

LIBERIA

President Doe Gives Automobile to Opposition Figure

AB142224 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 14 Apr 87

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Yet again, there are hints and allegations in Liberia that Bacchus Mathiews, leader of the opposition United People's Party, UPP, is about to do a deal with President Samuel Doe. When he came back from self-imposed exile in the United States in December, tongues wagged and they suggested that Bacchus Mathiews was thinking of taking up seats in parliament shunned by other opposition parties. He backed away from that at the time but now,following events of the weekend, speculations have been stirred up again, and today the UPP issued a statement. From Monrovia, Isaac Bantu cabled this report:

[Studio announcer] The statement said that party chairman Bacchus Mathiews had been invited by President Doe to the Executive Mansion last Sunday, April 12, which was the 7th anniversary of the coup which brought the then Master Sergeant Samuel Doe to power. The statement said that President Doe and Mr Mathiews discussed what was described as their positive working relationship during the early days of the Liberian revolution and the efforts of the Redemption Council to create a multiparty democracy in Liberia. The discussions then switched to the current political situation in the country and the need for unity among Liberians.

Then on a personal note, according to the statement, President Doe expressed his concern about Mr Mathiews not having a car as a result of a motor accident he had had in 1985. The president personally presented a vehicle to Mr Mathiews as a token of their friendship. The statement added that both Mr Mathiews and President Doe had agreed to maintain an open line of communication.

Doe Orders Audit of Internal Affairs Finances

AB142311 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] The president, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, has ordered an immediate audit into the financial operations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs from 1985 up to the present. An Executive Mansion release issued today said the directive was contained in a letter from the president to the auditor general of Liberia, (Andrew Red).

In the letter, Dr Doe asserted that government found it necessary to [words indistinct] the special audit in the wake of reports of financial irregularites at the Internal Affairs Ministry. Meanwhile, the auditor general is to submit his report to the president [words indistinct]

NIGERIA

Babangida States Commitment to Press Freedom

AB141639 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Excerpt] President Ibrahim Babangida has given the assurance that the present administration will not reintroduce the obnoxious Decree No 4 [restricting press freedom] of 1984. The president said that despite the events of the past week the government's commitment to freedom of the press remains unshakable. He was speaking at the commissioning of Nnamdi Azikiwe Press Center at Dodan Barracks.

Major General Babangida, however, warned that the government would not allow a situation in which that freedom was seen as license to frustrate government's efforts to rebuild the economy or cause disaffection and unrest. He pointed out that when the government repealed the controversial Decree 4, it was made quite clear that this administration would expect journalists to exhibit responsibility in the discharge of their duties. That expectation, President Babangida said, has not always materialized and, therefore, called for self-discipline among journalists. [passage omitted]

Minister Defends Commercial Broadcasting

AB141120 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Excerpt] The minister of information and culture, Prince Tony Momoh, has said that commercial broadcasting, which is being planned for the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria, FRCN, is to complement government's reduced subvention. A 50 percent cut has been effected in subventions to all parastatals. The minister said that the fear that state-owned radio stations would be deprived of revenue if FRCN resumed commercial broadcasting should not arise. The state stations, he observed,

would benefit more if they did not engage in unnecessary competition with the FRCN or with one another. Prince Momoh, who was answering questions on a Radio Nigeria Enugu current affairs program, Forum, said that the proscription of the *Newswatch* magazine was not meant to threaten journalism, but to serve as a deterrent to excesses in the profession. Journalists, he contended, should practice their profession within stipulated roles and principles. [passage omitted]

Religious Groups Banned at Sokoto University
AB141116 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] In compliance with the recent Federal Government's decision on religious associations in institutions of higher learning, six religious groups have been banned by the University of Sokoto. They are the associations of Brotherhood Academic Students, [words indistinct] Campus Fellowship, Fellowship on Christian Studies, Muslim Studying Society, Nigerian Federation of Catholic Students, and the Students Christian Movement. A statement signed by the students affairs officer, A.C. Borha, in Sokoto yesterday, said that the ban will remain in force for the next 1 year, unless the Federal Government rescinded the order. The statement also said that the authorities will not allow the formation of new religious associations during the period of the ban.

SENEGAL

Reportage on Police Protest Developments

Police Resume Work
AB141223 Paris AFP in French 1028 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Dakar, 14 Apr (AFP) — Senegalese policemen who went on strike and demonstrated yesterday in front of the Ministry of Interior and in the streets of Dakar, resumed work this morning, despite a call to continue the stoppage.

This morning, a large number of gendarmes took up positions in front of the Ministry of Interior and at several crossroads in the central area of the city. Also, the policemen were asked to report to police stations at 0730 for a roll call, while the ranks were dissuading the policemen from gathering in front of the Dakar Central Police Station where the striking policemen were expected to gather for another meeting.

This unprecedented strike action, which ended yesterday evening with a cortege of uniformed policemen parading in the streets of downtown Dakar, followed the sentencing of two policemen to 2 years in jail after the death of a suspect during interrogation. The strike action quickly led to a complaint about working conditions. The policemen stated that they are subject to all the disadvantages of belonging to a paramilitary body, including the prohibition against taking part in trade union activities, yet enjoy none of the benefits of being in the Army.

Selected Officers Suspended
AB142249 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] The president of the republic, in accordance with the Constitution, particularly Articles (?67 and 65); in accordance with Law No 66-07 of 18 January 1966 on the status of personnel of the police force [word indistinct], especially Article 19, decrees:

Article 1: With the exception of policemen appointed by presidential decree, all personnel of the police force belonging to the various corps governed by Law No 66-07 of 18 January 1966 [words indistinct] have been suspended as of the date of the signing of the present decree.

Article 2: The minister of the interior and the minister of the civil service, labor, and employment [words indistinct] the implementation of the present decree which will be published in the *Official Gazette*.

Ministry Communique Reported
AB142308 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Here is a communique from the minister of communications: The government spokesman, on Decree (?87-489) of 14 April 1987 [words indistinct] the policemen disturbed public order yesterday and today, (?which constitutes) a rebellion. [passage indistinct] For these reasons, while awaiting other measures, the president of the republic has decided to suspend all members of the police force with the exception of personnel whose functions [words indistinct]. This decision, which comes into effect as of this day, Tuesday, 14 April 1987, is punishment for the [word indistinct] rebellion by the police force [words indistinct] flagrant violation of the law.

That was a communique by the minister of communications, government spokesman, on decree (?87-489) of 14 April 1987, on the suspension of police force personnel.

Police Must Hand Over Arms
AB142321 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Here is a communique from the Ministry of the Interior: In application of Decree (?87-489) of 14 April 1987 on the suspension of the entire police force, the minister of the interior requests all members of the police force to hand over their arms within the shortest possible time, to refrain from wearing their uniforms, and to remain at home unitl further notice. [Words indistinct] are not affected by this measure.

Security Director Replaced
AB142106 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 1830 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Excerpt] In Senegal, were any people wounded during the clashes in Dakar this morning between policemen, who have been

overexcited since yesterday, and gendarmes who were sent to disperse the demonstrating policemen? The British press agency *Reuter* and AFP, who reported the event, give different versions. *Reuter* says there were wounded persons while AFP claims there were none.

This clash, the first in Senegal's history between the two bodies, one being paramilitary and the other military, took place about 100 meters from the Presidency of the Republic when nearly 200 policemen who were marching in a procession toward the Ministry of the Interior ran up againsta barrier formed by the gendarmes. The gendarmes threw tear gas grenades to disperse the policemen. The policemen retaliated with the same weapons.

This unprecedented protest has resulted in the dismissal of the director of national security, Amsata Sall, who has been replaced by the current governor of Thies Region. [passage omitted]

Interior Minister Dismissed

AB142234 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] A decree has been issued on a cabinet reshuffle: The president of the republic, in accordance with the Constitution, particularly Article 43, with Decree No 81-003 of 1 January (?1982) on the appointment of the secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic, and with Decree No 86-01 of 2 January 1986 on a cabinet reshuffle [words indistinct] decrees:

Article 1: Ibrahima Wone has been relieved of his post as minister of the interior

Article 2: Jean Colin, secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic, has been appointed interim minister of the interior as of the date of signing of the present decree. (?He will serve both as) secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic and minister of the interior.

Article 3: Minister [words indistinct] secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic and minister of the interior (?is charged with the implementation) [words indistinct] on 14 April 1987.

Strike Spreads to Provinces

AB150912 Paris AFP in French 0722 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Excerpts] Dakar, 15 Apr (AFP) — The Senegalese Government yesterday evening reacted firmly to the insurrection embarked upon by the policemen on Monday [13 April] and which degenerated Tuesdayinto clashes in the center of Dakar with gendarmes charged with maintaining order. All the policemen have been suspended and the minister of interior dismissed. [passage omitted]

On Tuesday morning and later in the evening, some clashes took place in the heart of the capital between gendarmes charged with maintaining order and the striking policemen. No one was wounded. According to conflicting sources, one gendarme was taken hostage by the policemen, while the strike action spread to the provinces.

At Thies, (80 km east of Dakar), policemen broke into the Palace of Justice and ransacked the building. Police demonstrations were also reported to have taken place at Diourbel (central Senegal) and at Kaolack (southwest). [passage omitted]

More on Provincial Protests

AB151212 Dakar PANA in French 0925 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] Dakar, 15 Apr (APS-SEN/PANA) — Senegal's director general for national security has been relieved of his post and replaced by El Hadj Malik Ba who, until now, was governor of the region of Thies (70 km from Dakar), it was learned yesterday following the weekly meeting of the Council of Ministers.

This decision, which came on the second day of the strike action embarked upon the day before by several hundred Dakar policemen from various ranks, is aimed at calming the strike action, according to observers. The striking demonstrators clashed in the morning with a strong military force made up of gendarmes of the Intervention Gendarmerie Legion (LGI) [Legion de Gendarmerie d'Intervention]. However, calm returned in the afternoon, especially after several appeals for calm by the Central Police Station, the Ministry of Interior, and the LGI command post.

It will be recalled that the policemen had, on Monday [13 April] organized a sit-in in front of the Ministry of Interior after a march which took them from Independence Square to the Interior Ministry building, through the Palace of the Republic. They were protesting the sentencing by a Dakar court on Friday of seven constables accused of causing the death of a delinquent whom they allegedly tortured in 1983.

The police demonstrations on Tuesday spread to two major towns in the interior, Thies and Diourbel (70 km northeast and 140 km southeast of Dakar respectively).

In Thies, where the major barrack of the Mobile Intervention Group (GMI) [Groupement Mobile d'Intervention], an anti-riot force, is located, almost all the policemen (including the GMI members) marched through the town in the morning, chanting the same slogans against the minister of interior. They later went to express their displeasure to the governor, who represents the executive power at the regional level.

From the governor's office, the demonstrating policemen surged down into the Thies Magistrate Court premises where a criminal case was being heard. The demonstrators broke into the courtroom where they broke chairs, tables, and tore up documents before returning to their base, without, however, attacking any magistrate, contrary to what some claimed.

At Diourbel, the demonstration was more peaceful as the policemen only marched past the governor's office, the mayor's office, the court, and the office of the regional prefect, chanting the same slogans against the minister of interior and complaining about their "material and moral working conditions."

MOZAMBIQUE

First Issue of ECONOMIA Magazine Published

MB141858 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Excerpt] We have learned that the first edition of *Economia* magazine, a Mozambique Chamber of Commerce publication dealing with the economy and enterprise, is now on sale in Mozambique. Page 14 of this magazine's first issue contains an interview with Dr Almeida Matos, an economist and director of the directorate for foodstuffs and tobacco. [passage omitted]

SOUTH AFRICA

Commentary Defends Conscription, Border War

MB150528 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Tens of thousands of young South Africans report for duty each year to serve in the defense of their country.

There are those who oppose this service, among them an organisation called the End of Conscription Campaign [as heard], described by the minister of defense this week as "a direct enemy of the South African Defense Force."

Opposition to conscription and to participation in the war being fought on our borders is based on the claim that this is an unjust war because it is a war being waged by what is termed an oppressive white government against black liberation. This, however, is a false perception.

The terrorists who are waging war against the people of South Africa include in their high command both black and white. They are hugely funded by whites, and they commit their cowardly acts of terror indiscriminately against both black and white civilians. They are revolutionaries, they shun democracy, and they seek political power via the handgrenade and the limpet mine.

Moreover, they are heavily committed to communism, an atheistic dogma that is the antithesis of the doctrine subscribed to by the very churchmen and other Christians who hold that the war being conducted by the South African Defense Force against the revolutionaries is an unjust war.

The influence of communism within the hierarchy of both the African National Congress and SWAPO is well documented; that their financial and military support comes overwhelmingly from the communist bloc is beyond dispute.

Ranged against this black-white combine of communists and revolutionaries are South Africans, both black and white, who are committed to an orderly and evolutionary society.

Within the South African Defense Force, 24 percent of the permanent force is composed of black, colored, and Indian volunteers. In South-West Africa, black soldiers are prominent in the most famous and most successful of the combat battalions in the operational area.

The war they and their counterparts in the republic are fighting is not a black-white conflict; it is a war between those who seek a revolutionary future and a Marxist dictatorship for South Africa and for Southwest Africa and those who want a resolution of problems through the civilized mechanisms of negotiation and consensus.

Solidarity Promises Walkout If Non-Whites Drafted

MB150520 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0104 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] Durban, April 14, SAPA — Indians, and he was certain coloureds as well, would walk out of Parliament if the government forced conscription on these communities, Mr Ismail Omar, national chairman of Solidarity and its representative on the President's Council, said in Durban tonight.

Reacting to a statement on conscription made by the minister of defence, Gen Magnus Malan, at an election meeting in Grahamstown, Mr Omar said there could be no conscription of Indian and coloured youths until the government met two conditions. These were that all apartheid legislation and structures, including the tricameral parliament, would have to be abolished, and a negotiated constitution based on the consent of all South Africans had been worked out and implemented. "It is the declared policy of the (Indian) House of Delegates and the (coloured) House of Representatives that there would be no conscription in defence of apartheid. It is, therefore, presumptuous for Gen Malan to state that Indians and coloureds were following the same pattern with regard to conscription as that of whites," Mr Omar said.

New Defense Chief Dissolves Action Committee

MB141551 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] The newly appointed commander of the Transkei Defense Force [TDF] has dissolved the committee which was responsible for the recent expulsion of former Selous Scouts from the territory. With the details, Frans Kruger:

[Kruger] General Bantu Holomisa told me during an exclusive interview that he had dissolved the four-member action committee the same afternoon he was appointed as new commander of the TDF, replacing pro-Selous Scouts General Zondo Mtirara. The committee had emerged as a driving force between his own recent release, the expulsion of the white advisers, as well as his appointment by Prime Minister George Matanzima last Wednesday [8 March]. [sentence as heard]

The 31-year-old general also for the first timed revealed the charges on which he was held. He told me he had been detained for over 2 months on allegations he had been involved in the

Ciskei plot to abduct General Charles Sebe from Transkei, where has has been given political asylum. Gen Holomisa claimed the charges had been dreamed up by the white advisers to get him out of the way.

Party Spokesmen Discuss Future Majority Rule

MB141948 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1830 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Report on separate interviews with Pieter Schoeman, Progressive Federal Party [PFP] candidate for North Rand; Pat Mohr, Conservative Party [CP] candidate for Port Natal; and Craig Williamson, National Party [NP] candidate for Bryanston, by Louis de Villiers and unidentified reporter on the "Network" program, introduced by Gillian van Houten; video recorded passages in quotation marks]

[Text][Van Houten] Black aspirations and white fears have been two aspects being discussed by political parties in the run-up to the elections. The demise of the Smith government in Rhodesia and the advent of majority rule in Zimbabwe is often cited as an example of what could happen here. Tonight we hear the views of the NP, the CP, and the PFP.

[De Villiers] "Mr Schoeman, welcome to Network. Mr Schoeman, most white political parties seem to think that the PFP's policies will inevitably lead to majority rule. Do you agree with this?

[Schoeman] "No, I must reject that. It is actually an accusation, and I reject that accusation out of hand. If one looks at democracies I think one can distinguish between two main types of democracies. The one is a majority rule system, which is the typically Westminster system, and the other is a consensus democracy. Now, the PFP's policy is very clearly a consensus democracy, and that excludes majority rule. The problem with democracy is ... [changes thought] or, if I could put it this way, what is the essence of democracy is that people affected by legislation should participate in the decisionmaking process. And in majoritarianism, majorities always exclude minorities. And in a society like South Africa, which actually has a number of minorities, majoritarianism would be a very dangerous type of policy, and you would have exclusion of minorities. Therefore, we have gone the other route, namely the consensus route, which guarantees minorities representation in government at all times.

[De Villiers] "Right. Now, if we could talk about Zimbabwe, the Zimbabwean example, for a moment. Is there a comparison between events in Zimbabwe prior to majority rule to that of South Africa at the moment?

[Schoeman] "There are similarities, but I also have to then draw certain differences which I think are important. The major difference that I want to draw attention to is that Zimbabwe at all times had an umbilical cord to Britain. Even with the transfer of power, Britain was very much present. And in the end result of that negotiation one could see the influence of Britain, because what happened there is exactly what happened in every other colony which was decolonized by Great Britain; namely, that they saddled them with majority rule. Now, fortunately, regarding the South African situation, we do not have that, call it the British problem. If I look at the similarities, I think there are two points I want to make, which I see at this present stage. The first one is that you cannot gerrymander groups into factions, you cannot co-opt people into structures, you cannot endeavor to monopolize power and call that powersharing. In the long run, your bluff will be called and it will not work. What I would like to put forward in this respect is the one mistake we must not make, and this is what we are seeing happening in Zimbabwe right at the present day, and that is that that little exclusive white group in parliament is being threatened to lose their priviliged position there, the reason being that they tried to secure themselves their minority rights by means of racial group bias. We must never fall into that trap, to do that. What we must do is to secure individual rights by means of a bill of rights, and then any majority cannot take those rights away from you. They can take away group rights, and that is what they are doing in Zimbabwe at this stage."

[Reporter] "How do you see the current security situation in South Africa, in relation to the Rhodesian experience?

[Mohr] "South Africa at present is firmly embarked upon the Rhodesian road, and I would like to say that unless very rapidly we find the route of partition and the route of separate development we must stick with, then this country is doomed to become just another banana republic, as are the countries to the north of us.

[Reporter] "Can constitutional developments in South Africa and Zimbabwe be compared?

[Mohr] "Constitutional development in Rhodesia has obvious parallels. Both were governed under the Westminster system for many, many years until South Africa marched down the tricameral route, which has already proved to be a dismal failure, and Rhodesia adopted the multiracial route, which was typical of African states and ended up in the usual way of one man, one vote, one time. Now, I would say that at this stage, with the Nationalists asking for a mandate to accommodate the blacks, that South Africa is firmly embarked upon the same integrationary route.

[Reporter] "What should we learn from the Zimbabwean experience?

[Mohr] "Number one, there are no entrenched rights for minorities in the African context. Bill of rights, which are supposed to protect these rights for the minorities prove inevitably to be no more than paper promises, as the countries take their inevitable march towards a one-party state. Whites have no security of tenure and, in fact, they become immigrants in their own land."

[De Villiers] "Mr Williamson, welcome to Network. The right-wing parties often accuse the government that its policies will lead to majority rule inevitably. Do you agree with this?

[Williamson] "No, that's complete and total nonsense. I think the National Party and the government have said time and time again that the policy of the party, the policy of the government,

is to create or to assist in the process of creating a unique political situation in South Africa, one in which no group will be dominated by another, but one in which all people, individuals, and groups will have all the rights coming to them.

[De Villiers] "Do you think there are any similarities in the situation that has developed here to that in Zimbabwe prior to majority rule?

[Williamson] "No, I do not. I don't think there are any military similarities and I certainly don't think there's any constitutional or political similarities, and I can expand on that: The major reason that I say that is that Zimbabwe is an example of exactly what the National Party is attempting to avoid developing in South Africa. What happened in the Zimbabwean situation is that too few group rights were entrenched in the new constitution. Only temporary rights for the whites were entrenched. No rights for the minority black population groups were entrenched and that has led to a sitution of political, economic, and military disaster, one which we do not want to emulate.

[De Villiers] "People often say, you often hear people say at least, that things aren't really that bad in Zimbabwe. Do you think it's really that bad?

[Williamson] "Well, I think if one judges the country by the political unrest, by the murders that have been committed, and by the collapse of the economy, then if somebody says to me it's not all that bad, well fine, but then obviously that person will think that Beirut is not all that bad either.

[De Villiers] "In the final analysis, how will we prevent foreigners from meddling in our affairs to such an extent where they actually predict the outcome as what happened with Rhodesia a la [the] Lancaster House [agreements]?

[Williamson] "Well, the most important thing is that the world must accept that South Africans are going to solve South Africa's problems and we must show that we are serious in solving South Africa's problems and we must show that we are going to create in South Africa a unique situation, a unique constitution, one that is universally acceptable to all our people, which will guarantee rights to everyone, something that hasn't been done often in this world.

[De Villiers] "Finally, black aspirations and white fears: Do you think a balance could be struck between these two?

[Williamson] "Absolutely. I think that is one of the most crucial things that we have to do in this country. Blacks have to accept that there are legitimate white fears and whites have to accept that there are legitimate black aspirations. We have to marry the two and we have to do this by structuring a society that is going to protect the individual and the group so that we don't end up, like in Northern Ireland, with group conflict."

Information Bureau Issues 14 Apr Unrest Report

MB150958 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0954 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] Pretoria April 15 SAPA — The following is the Bureau for Information's unrest report for the past 24 hours.

Altogether eight railway carriages were damaged in Soweto when riotous vandals set them alight (in six incidents) or threw stones at them (two incidents).

In one of the latter incidents where stones were thrown a passenger train was stoned at Nancefield station, a white man over the age of 18 was injured.

Damage in all these cases was reported as considerable. No other injuries or arrests have thus far been reported.

In Chesterville (Durban) a group of unknown persons threw a handgrenade (make unknown) at the home of a SAP [South African Police] member and also fired at the house with a shotgun. The SAP member returned their fire and drove the attackers off.

No injuries or arrests have thus far been reported. Damage to the house was reported as being minimal.

Other unrest related incidents reported during the above period comprised stone throwing and arson which, according to reports, resulted in little damage and only in one incident, in Kwazekele (Port Elizabeth) where stones were thrown at a security force vehicle. A black man over the age of 18 and a black youth (male) were arrested.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

14 Apr Press Review

MB140640 [Editorial report]

CITIZEN on Denis Worrall

The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 13 April comments on independent candidate Denis Worrall, saying, "the ex-diplomat is now a political street fighter, arrogant, evasive, ducking and weaving and changing his stance, no longer pretending to give his erstwhile colleagues a signal for quicker reform, but keen on bloodying their noses if he can." "From ambassador to political alliance builder to the creator of a new party is clearly a natural progression for a man of such personal talents as Dr Worrall has. But somehow we think he is going to be too overbearing for the Progs [Progressive Federal Party], who should have second thoughts about playing second fiddle to him."

STAR on Ban on Detainee Release Calls

Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 13 April comments in a page 12 editorial on the decree banning calls for the release of detainees. "South Africa's standards of justice and freedom have reverted to where they were in Germany 50 years ago, or to feudal Britain 800 years ago. And the disingenuous explanations of the minister of law and order help not a bit. If anything they make

the state look incompetent as well as increasingly fascist. It is interesting that the new orders issued by the authorities now give the police the power which *The Star* disputed they had when they visited this newspaper weeks ago with a confiscation order."

BUSINESS DAY on Powersharing

"Government conveniently leaves Parliament out of its explanations of how it plans to share power with blacks," notes a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 13 April. Ministers talk of "full political rights at all levels," and "if this means more than the 'own legislation assemblies' to which F.W. de Klerk referred, government should say so. Full political rights either means parliamentary votes and seats and cabinet positions, or it is the latest euphemism for the latest 'own affairs' adaptation of apartheid. Ministers play with words and change political nuances to suit different audiences. Voters and non-voters alike are entitled to know before May 6 — preferably from President P.W. Botha himself — exactly what government means by powersharing and by full political rights."

NP Loss of Political Control

Ken Owen writes on the same page that "no serious person can doubt that the forces which destroyed apartheid as a policy will prevail over the remnants of apartheid." The NP leaders "jettison apartheid, but cling to the Group Areas Act. They abandon the atrocities of mass removals, but try to remove people anyway. They accept the imperatives of urbanisation, and abandon the pass laws and the old influx control policies, but try nevertheless to check urbanisation by new kinds of influx control." Owen believes the NP suffers from an "intellectual shallowness" and a "loss of political control that demands, increasingly, the use of coercion." The NP leaders "have no intellectual contribution to make, no vision of the future, no bedrock principles. They are held together by inertia, by privilege, by self-interest. They show every classical symptom of a decaying elite, including cynicism. Therefore, suddenly, the ANC is a mighty force, bearing down on us from the dark heart of Africa, and Pik Botha barks his warnings while our wonderful army, parades its fine new weapons for all to see."

SOWETAN: Ban on Detainee Release Calls

"We cannot be blamed for wondering if the government is being petty or being desperate by banning all calls for the release of detainees," notes the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 13 April. "Such calls have been made since detention-without-trial in this country started in the early 1960's. The government has consistently ignored them." "The calls have been singularly responsible and peaceful, made at tea parties for relatives and friends of detainees, at sober meetings, through letters to cabinet ministers. Now where does the government think it is driving the country to through this closure of one more channel of peaceful protest? The ban is one the government should reconsider immediately."

SOWETAN: Klaaste on White South Africans

Acting Editor Aggrey Klaaste notes in the "On the Line" column on page 9 of *Sowetan* that "while most people fear and distrust what is happening behind the Iron Curtain, the evil that has become the bane of South Africans is pretty basic. People are being denied their rights not because they are highly successful dissidents or closet Christians. People are oppressed here because they are black." Klaaste goes on to say that "you have never come across a more uninspiring, uncreative, lack-lustre and unwholesome group of bullies than white South Africans."

RAPPORT on ANC Terrorist Plans

A page 26 editorial in Johannesburg *Rapport* in Afrikaans on 12 April says: "The ANC is a militant organization which wants to establish itself in a position of power and cannot be wished away." "The terrorist acts which it commits are concrete examples of how it hopes to capture power." The paper does not believe, therefore, that Foreign Minister Pik Botha's warning about a planned ANC attack for 6 May "is a political ploy." "It remains the task of the authorities to ensure the population's security, and countries providing refuge to the ANC are rightly warned not to participate in the ANC's adventures."

Protection of Group Unacceptable

Professor I.G. Rautenbach of the Rand Afrikaans University's Department of Constitutional Law says on the same page that "more and more the group's [racial grouping] recognition is being compared to apartheid. It is said that the idea of the group, like apartheid, should be abolished." But, "what happens to the group idea after apartheid?" There are four schools of thought: Some believe in national states — "an own area for homogenous groups"; others believe in a "geographical federation in which the individual groups are established in separate areas"; a third group believe [racial] "groups should not be officially recognized" since this encourages group antagonism; and a fourth approach is that "no one should be forced to participate in any structure based on their racial grouping." Rautenbach says that "perhaps the center of the world's unsolved minority problems is the unwillingness of groups to accept that democratic solutions for group problems are complicated and difficult, thus demanding great patience."

TRANSVALER on ANC Motives

"It is an open secret that the ANC in conjunction with the SACP [South African Communist Party] will do all in its power to prevent a satisfactory dispensation between the democratically minded people of South Africa," notes a page 12 editorial in Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 10 April. "The ANC's [communist] advisers should not be underestimated. They are well aware that a satisfactory mandate for the government will ultimately lead to a negotiated solution for the country. Such a peaceful solution means the defeat of the Marxist ideal of a dictatorship which can only be established after a bloody revolution." "We hope that not only the white voters but also every peace-loving South African will take thorough note of this."

BEELD on AWB

Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 13 April says in a page 10 editorial that Eugene Terreblanche, the AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] leader, "says the present political structure — therefore Parliament — is obsolete. If it is necessary, the country will be recaptured with violence." The paper further points out that Terre'Blanche is "playing an important role in the CP [Conservative Party]." "If Dr Treurnicht does not repudiate Terreblanche, then the voters who planning to go to the polls on 6 May should again consider what he has in mind for the country." The newspaper believes that Treurnicht "is too

grateful to be riding on the back of the AWB." The readers are warned not to be "led by the nose."

NAMIBIAN on Conflict Increase in North

"It may well be the viewpoint of the authorities that the conflict in the north is winding down rather than escalating but this view does not coincide with the feelings of churchleaders, Ovambo Administration officials, and residents of the north, who are of the opinion that the war is intensifying and civilians are increasingly the victims," says the page 11 editorial in Windhoek *The Namibian* in English on 10 April. "Since Mr Botha himself, has in the past stated that the interim government he himself appointed, does not represent the broad base of the Namibian population, he should be prepared to meet with the churchleaders to hear their viewpoint, one that will be in obvious contradiction with that of the interim government."

Lister on Reporting on Northern Namibia

Gwen Lister writes in her "Political Perspective" column on page 10 that "despite protestations by opposition press to the casualties of the more than twenty years of hostilities between the South African Defence Force (SADF) and the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN)," "certain newspapermen, to the discredit of the profession as a whole prefer to align themselves with the status quo, and turn a blind eye to any reports or allegations which may further damage the credibility of both the occupying forces and the South African appointed-interim government." "To our deep regret, we too have not uncovered the full horrors of the war situation in northern Namibia, but we will certainly continue to expose such atrocities as and when they do occur."

15 Apr Press Review

MB150721 [Editorial report]

CITIZEN on Zimbabwe Purchase of MIG's

The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 14 April comments on Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's purchase of 12 MIG-29 interceptor aircraft from the USSR. The South African Air Force, however, is "not shivering in its Mirages because of this," since "Zimbabwe does not have pilots who can fly these advanced planes, and even with training in Russia, the pilots will not be able to handle these warplanes with total confidence and complete expertise." The paper also points out that Zimbabwe "was recently short of potato crisps, toothpaste, shaving cream, cooking oil, rice, detergents and pork sausages." Yet, "Mugabe squanders R648 million, and has committed cash crops in further barter deals, to purchase the MIGs. Even with all the alms Zimbabwe receives in foreign aid, it cannot refill its begging bowl after this wastefulness. But then Mr Mugabe, like all would-be dictators, prefers arms to butter."

STAR on Increasing Military Conflict in Southern Africa

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 14 April notes that "sounds of clanking armour issue from Angola and Zimbabwe as Russia pours in weapons to Angola and sells sophisticated warplanes worth almost R700 million to a Zimbabwe that cannot really afford them. The MPLA Government of Angola is preparing for another round of fierce winter fighting against the UNITA guerrilla movement. And the scale of conflict in Angola threatens to escalate." "Military instincts to destroy adversary positions unfortunately play havoc with political and diplomatic efforts to get negotiation started. To see the situation in true perspective, we need only remind ourselves of the serious political setbacks resulting from the Cabinda adventure and the triple South African strike into Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana a year ago." "Waging warfare has a price far beyond the intrinsic value of military hardware. It is a price paid in instability and the increasing threat of major conflict."

Certainty of Black President

A second editorial on the same page says that State President Botha "told British radio listeners at the weekend that there were limits to power sharing, that blacks will never get majority rule and that a black will never become a head of state." "Of course there will be a black president in this country one day. Even Mr Pik Botha once acknowledged that. What any state president ought to be discussing with his electorate is how to accommodate the change without hurting those who currently have all the power. He ought to be bringing about the change as efficiently and smoothly as possible so that the best values of Western culture are guaranteed for everybody. Instead he says 'never' — and allows his own government to rob the country of rights and values which it ought to be defending."

BUSINESS DAY Condemns Tax Funding of RSC's

A page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 14 April notes that the newest proposed tax funding of the Regional Services Councils [RSC's] is "sadly wanting." "Any change to the system which expands the already bloated and feather-bedded government bureaucracy deserves the roundest condemnation." "To burden the taxpayer with yet another tier of bureaucracy in the form of the Regional Services Councils, the benefits of which appear tenuous, and whose members will become entitled to the same comfortable lifestyle and employment benefits as the rest of the public service, cannot serve the economic imperatives of this nation."

Denouncement of Arbitrary Detention

"Only two credible explanations have been put forward for the promulgation of emergency regulations forbidding protest against detention without trial: either government is incompetent or it has taken leave of its senses," says a second editorial on the same page. "The suggestion that middle-class ladies (not to mention Archbishop Tutu and half the Bar Association) might end up in jail with the SA Communist Party for displaying bumper stickers in support of the rule of law is, if not a practical joke, then clear evidence of derangement at the top. Government, fortunately, seems to prefer the alternative explanation of incompetence: that the regulations say more than they mean because, once again, the legal draftsmen have been unequal to their job. Meanwhile, before the law changes in even more bizarre ways, we take the opportunity roundly to denounce arbitrary detention as a barbarous betrayal of values fashioned and fought for by free men over the past 1,000 years."

SOWETAN on Black Majority Rule

The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 14 April remarks: "Despite the fact that this statement was made with an eye at vote catching, Mr P. W. Botha was probably serious when he said there will only be black majority rule 'over

my dead body' to quote a one-time prime minister who is today thrown into the political wilderness." "It is at such critical times that leaders who are desperately hanging onto power that is slipping through their fingers make such memorable remarks. Mr Botha will be remembered by history for making this statement. Mr Botha's outburst is not surprising. We have always known that the so-called envisaged representative system of government for this country would never happen under his rule." "It is on the cards now that whatever representation blacks will have in the central government will never reflect the interests of the majority. There will be piece-meal forms of constitutional representation even if the incumbent government gets back into power with a big percentage of votes."

BEELD on Emergency Measures

Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 14 April says in a page 10 editorial that "every time the government proposes new regulations dealing with the state of emergency, there is protest. Left-wing circles accuse the government of taking even more freedom and say South Africa is becoming a police state." *Beeld* says there is "a need to inform the public about emergency measures. There are always explanations only after emergency steps have been taken. The government might be surprised at how sympathetic the public can be when it is presented with proper facts. The left-wing activist groups should however, not think we are supporting them when we say this. We know what their aims are and what role they played in trying to make South Africa ungovernable last year. They must not become pious, because funeral and church services are unashamedly being used for political ends." "As long as there are people and organizations who want to create abnormal and dangerous conditions in South Africa, they must expect to be confronted with emergency measures."

Criticism of Zimbabwe Weapons Purchase

"The peace agreement signed by South Africa, Transkei and the Ciskei is a milestone on the path toward peace in southern Africa," says a second editorial on the same page. "Few countries can increase the people's standard of living after independence because the little money that is available is used to buy expensive weapons, as is the case in Zimbabwe. Although Ciskei and Transkei are not wealthy, they instead of being suspicious of their neighbors' intentions harness their energies to help develop their countries." "Stability can be ensured only if neighboring countries respect one another's sovereignty and borders."

ZAMBIA

Musokotwane Departs on USSR, DPRK, U.S. Visits

MB082052 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 8 Apr 87

[Text] Prime Minister Kebby Musokotwane leaves Lusaka tonight for official visits to the Soviet Union, the DPRK, and the United States. A spokesman for the prime minister's office said Comrade Musokotwane will be accompanied by economic and financial subcommittee chairman Comrade (Alphie Musoko); the minister of state in the prime minister's office, Comrade Kennedy Shepande, and will be away for about 18 days.

While in Washington, Comrade Musokotwane, who is also the finance and planning minister, is expected to attend the semiannual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank which opens next Monday.

PLO's 'Arafat Stops Over En Route to Harare

MB141530 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has applauded Zambia for her strong support in trying to find a lasting solution to the Middle East crisis. The PLO's chief said this when he made a stopover at Lusaka International Airport on his way to Harare, Zimbabwe, to attend a Nonaligned summit on the Palestine problem. Comrade 'Arafat said that with the support from Zambia and other progressive states, his organization will succeed in achieving the goals of the Palestinian people. The PLO leader was [words indistinct] this morning.

ZIMBABWE

Kadungure Denies Reports on MIG-29 Purchase

MB141613 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1608 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] Harare, April 14, SAPA — The Zimbabwean minister of state (defence), Mr Ernest Kadungure, today dismissed as "untrue" overseas press reports that Zimbabwe had bought Soviet MIG 29 jet fighter aircraft, the semi-official news agency ZIANA reports.

Mr Kadungure told the House of Assembly that no such purchases had been made and described the press reports as "rumours and speculation", according to the ZIANA report.

He was answering a question from Mr Mark Partridge, (CAZ [Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe] MP for Mazowe-Mutoko), whether his ministry's Zimdollars 10 million (about R12.2 million) supplementary budget was part of the money to be used for buying the Soviet aircraft.

Noting that "ZD 10 million is nothing" when buying new aircraft, the minister said the money was needed for maintaining the existing fleet, and his ministry had requested a supplementary vote of ZD 33 million (about R40.2 million).

Mr Kadungure said the ZD10 million could not even be used for modifying aircraft as the exercise was more expensive than buying new aircraft, ZIANA reported.

He was praised by Mr Partridge for dismissing the press reports on the Soviet deal, saying it would have been impossible to maintain the MIG 29's and that the whole deal would have been "a complete waste of money."

The supplementary budget was subsequently approved.

Last weeks edition of the London *Sunday Telegraph*, quoting unidentified U.S. sources, reported that Zimbabwe was spending 324 million U.S. dollars (about R648 million) and pledging cash crops in a barter deal for the advanced MIG-29 Fulcrum jet fighters.

Nonaligned Committee on Palestine Opens Session

SFRY's Dizdarevic Attends

MB121205 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 12 Apr 87

[Text] The Yugoslav [SFRY] minister [as heard] of foreign affairs, Comrade Raif Dizdarevic, has called upon the Nonaligned Movement to find a peaceful solution to the crisis in the Middle East. Speaking on his arrival in Harare this morning, Comrade Dizdarevic said only an international conference on the Middle East involving all warring parties would bring a lasting solution to the crisis in the region. On South Africa, he reaffirmed his country's solidarity with the struggling masses in that country, and dismissed the forthcoming whites-only election as an extension of apartheid.

Zambia, Algeria Represented

MB131945 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 13 Apr 87

[Text] Foreign ministers of the Frontline States are to visit East European countries soon to brief the leaders in those countries on developments in southern Africa. The Zambian foreign minister, Mr Luke Mwananshiku, who arrived in Harare this afternoon, told newsmen that socialist countries need to be briefed on events in southern Africa because of their friendly relations with the Frontline States. The minister also spoke of the refugee problem in Zambia, and said that there are about 30,000 Angolan and Mozambican displaced people living in Zambia. Mr Mwananshiku is in Zimbabwe to attend a meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Committee of Nine on Palestine, beginning in Harare tomorrow. The meeting will discuss ways of resolving the crisis in the Middle East.

Meanwhile, Algeria's minister in the president's office, Comrade Mohamed Abdelghani, arrived in Harare today for the meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Committee of Nine. Comrade Abdelghani told newsmen on his arrival that his country has taken steps to ensure maximum security for the forthcoming Palestine national summit in Algiers. He said preparations for the summit are well advanced.

India's Tiwari, Others Attend

BK140343 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Tiwari, has had discussions in Harare on Palestine, South Africa, and other issues with his counterparts from several leading Nonaligned nations. Mr Tiwari is in the Zimbabwean capital to attend the 2-day meeting of the Nonaligned special committee on Palestine beginning today. He met the foreign ministers of Zimbabwe, Algeria, and Yugoslavia. The discussions covered the vetoing of the UN resolution on the imposition of mandatory sanctions against South Africa by the United States and Britain last week. The 9-member committee was set up by the Eighth Nonaligned Summit last year to tackle the issues relating to Palestine.

Besides India, representatives of Algeria, Yugoslavia, Bangladesh, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Cuba, and the PLO are attending the meeting. Zimbabwe is the chairman of the committee. The All-India Radio Harare correspondent, Bhupal Inder Seni, reports that focus of the meeting is expected to be mainly on an international peace conference on West Asia and ways to improve the conditions in Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

Earlier, on his way to Harare, Mr Tiwari had a meeting with the Kenyan president, Mr Daniel arap Moi. He briefed the Kenyan leader about India's efforts as chairman of Africa [Action For Resisting Invasion, Colonialism, and Apartheid] Fund to mobilize support for it. He also told President Moi that there is no question of India having any bias in regard to African students in conducting the AIDS tests. The test applies to all foreign students because the disease has acquired international dimensions and is not confined to any particular group.

'Arafat Greeted by Mugabe

MB141630 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 14 Apr 87

[Text] The chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, arrived in Harare today to attend the Nonaligned Movement's special committee on Palestine. On arrival, Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was met at Harare International Airport by the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, and foreign ministers on the committee.

Mugabe on Moral Responsibility

MB150731 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 15 Apr 87

[Text] The chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, NAM, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has called for an end to the harassment of Palestinians in refugee camps in Lebanon. He also urged those involved in the administration of the refugee camps to allow humanitarian organizations unrestricted access to the camps. Comrade Mugabe made the call when he officially opened a 2-day meeting of the NAM's 9-member commission on Palestine in Harare yesterday. The NAM chairman said recent reports of the tragic development in and around the Palestinian camps have given new cause for concern. He said the harsh treatment meted out to [word indistinct] and the (?peaceful civilians), and the [words indistinct] of medical and food supplies to the camps are a challenge to common humanity and a strain on the conscience of civilized men everywhere.

Comrade Mugabe said it's the moral duty and responsibility of the international community to look after the Palestinian refugees and to make their already disrupted and (?shattered lives) as [word indistinct] as possible. He reiterated the movement's

solidarity with the people of Lebanon and its support for the right of the Lebanon Government and people to exercise sovereignty throughout their territory.

Speaking at the same occasion, the chairman of the PLO, Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, said a just and durable peace in Middle East is impossible without Palestinians (?meeting) in self-determination in their own homeland. Comrade 'Arafat said the most effective means of achieving peace in the Middle East must be through an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations. He said the conference should be attended by the permanent member-states of the United Nations and all the parties concerned, with the PLO on equal footing.

Mugabe Urges Peace Conference

MB150737 Harare Domestic Service in English
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[Text] The chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, NAM, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has called for a preparatory committee made of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to prepare for an international peace conference on the Middle East. Comrade Mugabe, who heads a 101-member movement, was opening a meeting in Harare yesterday of the NAM's 9-member special committee on Palestine. He said that for the proposed international conference to have any chance of success, it is imperative that organization and administrative issues including the question of who is to participate should be taken care of well before the conference.

Comrade Mugabe said the conference should deal with substantive matters and should also be able to set about the important business of negotiating peace immediately. He said peace and security will have a better chance of survival in the Middle East if guaranteed by the international community as a whole. Comrade Mugabe also said the movement of nonaligned countries therefore considers that there can be no hope of a conference succeeding unless the Palestinian people, represented the Palestinian Liberation Organization, are a fully recognized party to it.

Kangai-Led Delegation Departs for DPRK, India

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[Text] The minister of energy, water resources, and development, Comrade Kumbirai Kangai, leaves Harare tonight on a tour that will take him to the DPRK, Bangladesh, and India. In the DPRK, Comrade Kangayi will take part in the joint economic commission meeting and national celebrations to mark the 75th birthday of Kim Il-song. The minister will deliver a message from President Canaan Banana to his counterpart, Comrade Kim Il-song.

The 8-member Zimbabwean delegation will later travel to Bangladesh and India, where they will participate in joint economic commission meetings.